

THE TIMES 1785-1985 Tomorrow

The Human Village
How the body's
chemical factory
and cleansing
plants work

Female fantasies
Why women
terrorists are
deadlier than
the male

Change of character
Dramatist Peter
Shaffer on turning
his play *Amanus*
into a film

Who owns London
The variety of
styles, and
property owners,
in Oxford Street

Smoking the pill
Digby Anderson sees
the brighter side
of the new rules
for prescribing drugs

Portfolio

The Times Portfolio competition prize of £2,000 was won yesterday by Mr Richard Valentine, of Norwich. Portfolio list, page 16; how to play, information service, back page.

Maxwell to wield jobs axe

Mr Robert Maxwell warned journalists and print workers that Mirror Group Newspapers might go into liquidation unless they accepted substantial redundancies, expected by the unions to be about a quarter of the staff. He promised those who remained the best pay and benefits in Fleet Street.

Kenneth Fleet, page 17

TV changes

The television industry expects the Government to pass the Broadcasting Bill, to put the law on a bill to revise the broadcasting business back page.

SAS man freed

A former SAS soldier held last week under the Prevention of Terrorism Act was released without charge, although a report is to be sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Liars charges

Two of the Polish secret policemen accused of killing Father Jerzy Popieluszko, denounced each other as liars in the final day of testimony page 7.

Engineering deal

Union leaders representing the engineering industry have accepted a 5.2 per cent pay offer which affects the minimum pay of more than two million workers.

Cruise pressure

President Reagan strongly urged Mr Wilfried Martens, the Belgian Prime Minister to proceed with the deployment of cruise missiles in March at talks in the White House.

Delors vision

M Jacques Delors, President of the new European Commission, spelt out his plans and dreams for the next four years when he addressed MEPs in Strasbourg.

Fowler's 149

An unbeaten 149 by Fowler, who shared in an opening stand of 178 with Robinson, put England in a strong position in the Fourth Test with India.

Page 21

Leader page, 13

Letters on housing stock, from Mr M. Manser, Ireland, from Brigadier W. M. T. Magan

Features, pages 10-12
A plan for the long-term jobs; Famine in Afghanistan; High-tech knitwear; The human village, part two

Obituary, page 14
Sir Robert Mayer, Sir Daniel Jack

Computer Horizons, page 20
Electronic hurglers - causing new headaches; Troubled home computer manufacturers make a risky move into business market; Unix operating system goes portable with Hewlett Packard

Legal appointments, 24, 25
Home News 23, 6
Law Report 8
Overseas 6, 4
Parliament 4
Arts 14
Science 14
Sports reports 28
Business 16-21
Sport 21-23
TV & Radio 27
Chess 7
Theatre, etc 27
Church 14
Unusually 14
Court 14
Weather 28
Crossword 12
Daily 14

Higher base rates and sliding pound may halt tax cuts

● The Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson, told the Commons that tax cuts expected in the Budget are at risk because of the crisis in sterling.

● The Building Societies Association looks certain to raise mortgage rates by up to 2 per cent when it meets on Friday.

● Base rates rose from 10.5 per cent, fixed on Friday, to 12 per cent as the Bank of England introduced a minimum lending rate for the first time since 1981.

● The weak pound helped push up industry's costs by 2.9 per cent last month, heightening fears of a rise in inflation.

By David Smith and Julian Haviland

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Nigel Lawson, yesterday told the Commons that the tax cuts expected in his next Budget were now at risk and that there could also be further cuts in public expenditure because of the sterling crisis.

The Chancellor's statement came on a day which saw the pound fall two cents against the dollar despite an earlier increase in bank base rates from 10.5 to 12 per cent.

A record £4.5 billion was wiped off the value of the Stock Exchange, and mortgages are certain to rise at the end of the week.

The mortgage rise, which could be as much as 2 per cent, will be governed by bank base rates. Dealers said that a further rise in interest rates could not be ruled out.

No sign of the foreign exchange markets' steady rise after the weekend the Bank of England set a minimum lending rate for the discount market for the first time since 1981.

The figure of 12 per cent was chosen, on the advice of the Governor of the Bank, by Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Mr Lawson after brief consultations in Downing Street early in the day. The clearing banks at once adopted an equivalent base rate. However, the pound re-

Leading article 13
Kenneth Fleet 17
Bill price cut 17
Stock market report 21
German boom 8

the pound is being overdone and now the Government has taken strong action against it in the short-term, businessmen will understand.

"Of course we hope that the increase in interest rates will be only temporary and we will press for them to come down as soon as the speculators have been seen off."

The pound opened very weak yesterday morning, trading at \$1.1020 in the Far East, before the London markets opened. It soon became clear that, without some action, the pound was

likely to drop below \$1.10. In early London trading, it was quoted at \$1.0995 and the sterling index was at 70.6, both record lows.

The Bank of England's announcement of a 12 per cent minimum lending rate, the minimum rate at which the Bank is prepared to lend to the discount houses - and the resulting base rate rise, soon pushed the pound up.

By 11am, the pound had recovered to \$1.1310 and the sterling index had gained more than a point on the opening level at 71.7.

The New York markets opened with the American dollar strong against all currencies. From an opening level of DM3.1510 against the mark in London, the dollar soon shot up to nearly DM3.20, its highest level for 12 years. The pound reversed its earlier gains falling back to \$1.11, a decline accelerated by the announcement by Statoil, the Norwegian state oil company, that it is to sell all its oil in January at spot market prices.

The pound closed at an all-time low of \$1.1105 in London; a net loss of 1.92 cents on Friday's close. The pound fell a penny against the Deutsche mark to DM3.5465, and the

Continued on back page, col 3

Mortgage rise of up to 2% likely

By Richard Thomson

A rise in mortgage rates of up to 2 per cent from the present basic rate of about 12 per cent is likely, according to sources in the industry.

The Building Societies Association has called a meeting of members for Friday to discuss the rise in bank base rates, and many sources said that a rise in their lending and deposit rates could take effect as early as February 1.

Most sources said that the higher-than-expected base rate rise would force them to increase their own rates by at least 1 to 1.5 per cent. But they would have to consider raising them even more if base rates looked like climbing further.

The building society interest rates trend is generally set by the amount the larger societies charge. The Halifax, Britain's largest society, said it would have to raise its rates but would not decide the amount for a day or two. The Abbey National, the second largest society, said it



Industry's costs up sharply

By Our Economics Correspondent

The tumbling pound helped push up industry's costs by 2.9 per cent in December, heightening concern over the effects of sterling's weakness on Britain's inflation rate.

The rise in manufacturing industry's raw material and fuel costs was due to the pound's 4.4 per cent drop against the dollar during the month, coupled with higher electricity costs.

Although the rate, compared with a year earlier, fell to 8.8 per cent in December from 9.3 per cent in November, another sharp rise in costs will have occurred this month, because of the pound's fall.

The main uncertainty is the extent to which these higher costs will feed through to higher prices in the shops.

However, many of the factors which have kept inflation down, may be declining in their impact.

Big freeze stops all football

The disruption of the third round of the FA Cup continued yesterday as the freezing weather hardened its grip. All seven matches were postponed, including Burton Albion against Leicester City, due to have been replayed at Derby behind closed doors. The match is now due to take place at Coventry City's ground tomorrow.

Both today's Milk Cup quarter-final matches have been postponed.

The start of the international Rugby Union season is also threatened. Parc des Princes in Paris, where France are due to play Wales on Saturday, has been snowbound, and a decision about the match will be made tomorrow.

Race meetings at Sedgfield and Worcester today have been abandoned, as has tomorrow's at Windsor. Market Rasen's late races with a 9am inspection this morning.

Britain will continue to freeze for at least another five days, the London Weather Centre said yesterday.

East and north-east winds will continue to bring occasional snow showers, mainly in the south and South-east, freezing fog will persist in many places, and a slow warming to a daytime maximum of just above freezing will

be perceptible only towards the end of the week.

Conditions in Wales, where yesterday's lowest temperature of -13 deg C (9 deg F) was recorded at St Harmon, Powys, were described as "atrocious". No coach services were operating in West Wales because of the weather.

The Department of the Environment has imposed a ban on the shooting of wildfowl in England and Wales from tomorrow. Scotland is expected to follow suit.

Fuel bills help, page 6
Romania cold crisis, page 7
Sport hit, page 22, 23

Judge gives surrogacy baby to her natural father

By Colin Hughes and Nicholas Timmins

The first baby born to a commercial surrogate mother in Britain has been handed over by the High Court to her natural father and his wife, a judge announced yesterday.

Mr Justice Lacey, who repeated his ban on any publicity leading to identification of the couple or baby, said that he had committed care and control of the baby to them until further order. All three have left the country.

Although the judgement was announced yesterday the judge made the order after a private hearing in the High Court last Friday. Documents were issued to Mr Derek Kirby-Johnson, the natural father's London solicitor, who executed a well-prepared plan to take the baby from Victoria Maternity Hospital, Barnet, north London, without being spotted by the press.

Mr Kirby-Johnson said yesterday that he and his wife, who is six months' pregnant, collected the baby and took her to a pre-arranged meeting with the father and his wife in London.

"Time was pressing, but you could see by the look in their eyes that they were overcome with delight, and that it was a moment of great fulfilment for them."

The couple and the baby immediately left the country. The judge said that he had granted them leave to live outside the court's jurisdiction on condition that they return the child if the court should order it, which he expected to be "unlikely" in this case.

Mr Justice Lacey did not say where the couple came from. They were in their thirties, had been married for several years and were "devoted to each other", he said.

Both are "highly qualified" professional people, with homes in town and country, who "deeply wanted a baby". Although the father is fertile,



Mr Kirby-Johnson, the father's solicitor.

the mother has a congenital defect which prevents her from having children.

The judge said that "in their home country adoption is slow, and a child is usually aged four to five at adoption".

He added that inquiries last week by Barnet Borough Council social services department had confirmed the fatherhood, and that the natural

mother had "voluntarily relinquished all parental rights in the child". She left the hospital a few hours after the birth and has not seen the baby's parents.

The baby's father had applied for the baby to be made a ward of court last Tuesday, and the couple attended the judge's first hearing. The second hearing was delayed until Friday so that Barnet social services could complete their inquiries.

The judge appealed to journalists to refrain from pursuing any inquiries aimed at identifying the couple or baby. "It is inconceivable that leave will ever be given to publish the identities (of the couple)."

For guidance on questions of publication and contempt, Mr Justice Lacey referred journalists to an article by the legal affairs correspondent in last Thursday's edition of *The Times*, in which the position was "clearly and accurately set out".

Mr Alan Gurst, director of Barnet social services, said after the judgement: "We are now quite satisfied that the baby will be extremely well looked after. Obviously the concern for the future is that legislation is brought forward to deal with the kind of problems we faced in this case."

"What worries me, and a lot of my colleagues in the field, is that the profit motive overwhelms and distorts the welfare aspects of the baby's position. Fortunately this case has a happy ending, and we hope that it continues that way."

Mr Tony Hall, director of the British Agencies for Adoption and Fostering, welcomed the judgement, but said that it would be worrying if it gauged debate on future surrogacy cases.

Ministers will decide "in the next week or two" whether to legislate quickly to outlaw commercial agencies.

Law Report, page 8



Aged 40 today: Princess Michael of Kent with Prince Michael at their home in Gloucestershire, Nether Lypiatt Manor. Interview, page 3.

392 killed as train plunges into ravine

Addis Ababa (Reuters) - Three hundred and ninety-two passengers were killed when a crowded train plunged 4250 ft into a ravine in eastern Ethiopia on Sunday night, the official Ethiopian News Agency said yesterday.

In its latest update of the death toll, it also revised the figure for those injured to 370, down from the 521 in an earlier report. A railway official in Djibouti, where the line terminates, said 420 people were killed and 500 injured. Either toll would make the crash one of the worst disasters in railway history.

ENA said the train, on the Addis-Djibouti line, was derailed near Awash, 150 miles east of the capital. The driver, who escaped unhurt, was under investigation. The cause of the crash was not known, but "accelerated speed" round a bend might have been the reason, the agency said.

People seriously injured in the crash were taken to hospital by helicopter. ENA said the train was carrying 1,000 passengers when it went off the rails at a level-crossing, sending several crumpled coaches hurtling into a ravine.

The Addis-Djibouti rail link is a vital outlet for Ethiopian trade and is usually packed.

● DHAKA: The death toll from a train fire in north-western Bangladesh was a subject of confusion as newspapers disputed the national railway's assertion that 27 people had died (AFP reports).

There was also uncertainty as to the cause of the crash at the weekend. Several Dhaka newspapers put the toll at more than 150, with one daily reporting as many as 300 dead.

Other pit news, page 2

Other pit news, page 2

Other pit news, page 2

Other pit news, page 2

Other pit news, page 2

Other pit news, page 2

Other pit news, page 2

Other pit news, page 2

Other pit news, page 2

Other pit news, page 2

Other pit news, page 2

1,330 miners go back to work board claims

● Another 1,330 miners abandoned their strike, so that 73,000 pit men are now working

● Mr Arthur Scargill has been accused in a High Court action of conspiring to intimidate working miners

● An NUM official accused of assault must live 110 miles from his home as a condition of bail

By Paul Knutledge, Labour Editor

The National Coal Board reported yesterday a fresh surge of miners abandoning the strike and in Nottinghamshire, working pitmen's leaders intensified their moves to break with the National Union of Mineworkers.

By the time the afternoon shift had clocked on, another 1,330 "new faces" had returned to their jobs, bringing the number of men not on strike to about 73,000, or 38 per cent of the NUM labour force. The drift back to work was most marked in Yorkshire, Scotland and the North-east, key union bastions in the conflict.

Mr Michael Eaton, chief spokesman for the board, said: "The return is encouraging. It reflects the disenchantment that the miners feel with the leadership of the dispute."

Private, the board hopes that the drift back will intensify the pressure on the NUM executive to shift its bargaining position and to allow fresh talks to take place on a formula for a return-to-work.

Now that the miners have agreed to bring their entire executive of 26 men to any new negotiations, the board is looking to the executive's meeting on January 24 to start a move away from the concept of "no pit closures on economic grounds".

The board is taking legal advice about what to do with the breakaway pit union emerging in Nottinghamshire as a result of the NUM executive's vote last week to expel the 30,000-member coalfield union, unless it rescinds recent rule changes and bows to the authority of the pro-strike national leadership.

The actions of the moderates in Nottinghamshire are being closely watched in other areas where most of the men are back at work. Area leaders in South Derbyshire and Leicestershire representing about 5,000 working pitmen, are considering whether to make a similar stand against the executive.

Last night, the South Derbyshire leaders decided to back the Nottinghamshire area executive. Continued on back page, col 8

Continued on back page, col 8

Continued on back page, col 8

Continued on back page, col 8

Continued on back page, col 8

Continued on back page, col 8

Continued on back page, col 8

Continued on back page, col 8

Continued on back page, col 8

Continued on back page, col 8

Continued on back page, col 8

Continued on back page, col 8

Continued on back page, col 8

Continued on back page, col 8

Continued on back page, col 8

Continued on back page, col 8

Continued on back page, col 8

Continued on back page, col 8

Continued on back page, col 8

Continued on back page, col 8

SCHOOL FEES FROM £15 A WEEK. A SMALL SUM TO PAY FOR YOUR CHILD'S FUTURE.

£15 a week doesn't buy much nowadays but with "Invest for School Fees Ltd", it could buy your children or grandchildren an independent education. That means an education of your choice - the most precious gift you can give to any child.

Now more than ever the savings achieved in planning as early as possible are enormous.

Call us or complete the coupon below. It commits you to nothing but it may be the start of your commitment to the kind of education and future we'd all like our children to have.

Invest For School Fees Ltd.
01-629 0524

Fast to invest for School Fees Ltd, 27 Dover Street, London W1X 3PA.

Name _____
Address _____
Home Tel _____ Office Tel _____
Child/Children's Age(s) _____ T.I.S.I.
Preferred method of payment:
From Income ☐ Income & Lump Sum ☐ Lump Sum ☐

Work practices warning given with engineering workers' rise

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Union leaders accepted last night a 5.2 per cent pay rise covering the minimum pay of more than two million workers in the engineering industry, but were warned by the employers that any cuts in working hours will have to be financed by big changes in working practices.

The settlement between 17 unions and the Engineering Employers' Federation, representing more than 600 companies, has traditionally been regarded as the pace-setter for private sector settlements, but the deal has already been outstripped by agreements in car companies.

Employers and unions agreed to set up a negotiating body to pave the way for the introduction of a shorter working week, but the employers have said that in order to meet the unions' stated priority of reducing working time they will have to agree to a five-point productivity programme.

The unions were also told yesterday that a reduction in the present 39-hour working week will not be possible before April 1987 at the earliest and that its introduction could then be phased over two years.

The offer gives a 5.14 per cent increase in national minimum rates for skilled workers and 5.18 per cent for unskilled. The increases cover mainly overtime and bonus payments, but they tend to be

TUC urged to spare 'dissidents'

By Our Labour Editor

Talks with airlines fail, Laker says

Sir Freddie Laker announced yesterday that efforts to reach a settlement in his conspiracy case against British Airways and 11 other airlines had failed, and said: "I want my airline back."

He made the announcement after a weekend of talks to Key Biscayne, Florida, with lawyers representing the airlines which he accuses of conspiring to force his Laker Airways.

The airlines have offered £50 million, including between £2 million and £4 million for Sir Freddie personally, in an attempt to settle the dispute which is holding up the privatization of British Airways.

"We've had a constructive discussion but there is no agreement," Sir Freddie said. He did not disclose the reason for the breakdown but indicated that he was holding out in the hopes of much larger settlement which would enable him to relaunch his airline.

"My position is the same now that it has always been. Laker Airways was driven out of business by a criminal conspiracy and I want my airline back."

London British Airways had "no comment whatsoever" on the failure of the talks.

Mr Christopher Morris, the liquidator of Laker Airways, is suing the airlines for £890 million damages. The defendants include Pan-Am, TWA, Lufthansa, British Caledonia and Swissair.

The TUC's employment policy and organization committee will have before it a confidential policy paper arguing that no important steps should be taken for at least a month because many affiliated unions - including the biggest, the transport workers' TSWU - have failed to reply to a circular asking about their experience of the new legislation.

Pressure from moderates not to suspend the engineering union AUEW and the electricians' union EETPU intensified yesterday when the power station engineers argued that there was "no case" for disciplining the two unions for deciding to accept Government money for secret ballots in defiance of TUC policy.

Mr John Lyons, General Secretary of the Engineers and Management Association, argued: "If total adherence to all TUC resolutions and principles is to be the yardstick of affiliation then, if these two unions are to be suspended there is no action which would be safe from suspicion."

Final day for appeals against ratecapping

By David Walker, Social Services Correspondent

Today is the final day for appeals by rate-capped councils. Unless there is last-minute pleading, the Government has promised within a fortnight to fix a legal maximum rate for the 18 councils singled out for special control.

Once Parliament has fixed that maximum there is no way the councils, which include the Greater London Council, the Inner London Education Authority, Sheffield, Leicester and the left-wing Labour London boroughs of Hackney and Lambeth, can avoid significant reductions of expenditure.

According to Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment: "The January 15 date is real. The parliamentary and administrative timetable requires me to act very swiftly."

But by last night one of the councils, all Labour-controlled except for Conservative Portsmouth district and Brent, in north-west London, where an uneasy Liberal-Conservative coalition occupies a predominant position, had appealed to Mr Jenkin.

Hard-line Labour councillors led by Mr Ted Knight, the leader of Lambeth, have argued that the rate-capped councils should in no circumstances talk to ministers. The four south London councils of Lambeth, Greenwich and Southwark back this line.

But others advocate negotiations with the Department of the Environment, among them the leaders of Islington, Sheffield, and Haringey.

The matter has been made worse recently by the threat of a coup against the leaders of, for example, Camden because they are not adopting a hard enough position. Several councils have launched legal actions against the Government.

The Greater London Council last week published the opinion of a leading counsel which said Mr Jenkin had taken steps contrary to law; the GLC says the Government is moving too quickly to allow it time to consult.

Mr Jenkin has not closed the door on further talks with the threatened councils although he has ruled out any changes in the rate limits which, for example, require Leicester to make a 57 per cent cut in its rates.

● The Government announced last night that it is trimming its cash aid to council inner-city stress areas. Councils such as Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool and Hackney are to get the same amount in cash for 1985-86 as for 1984-85.

● Rates will increase in Wales by no more than 3 per cent, and in such places as Swansea and Neath they will fall, according to government figures.

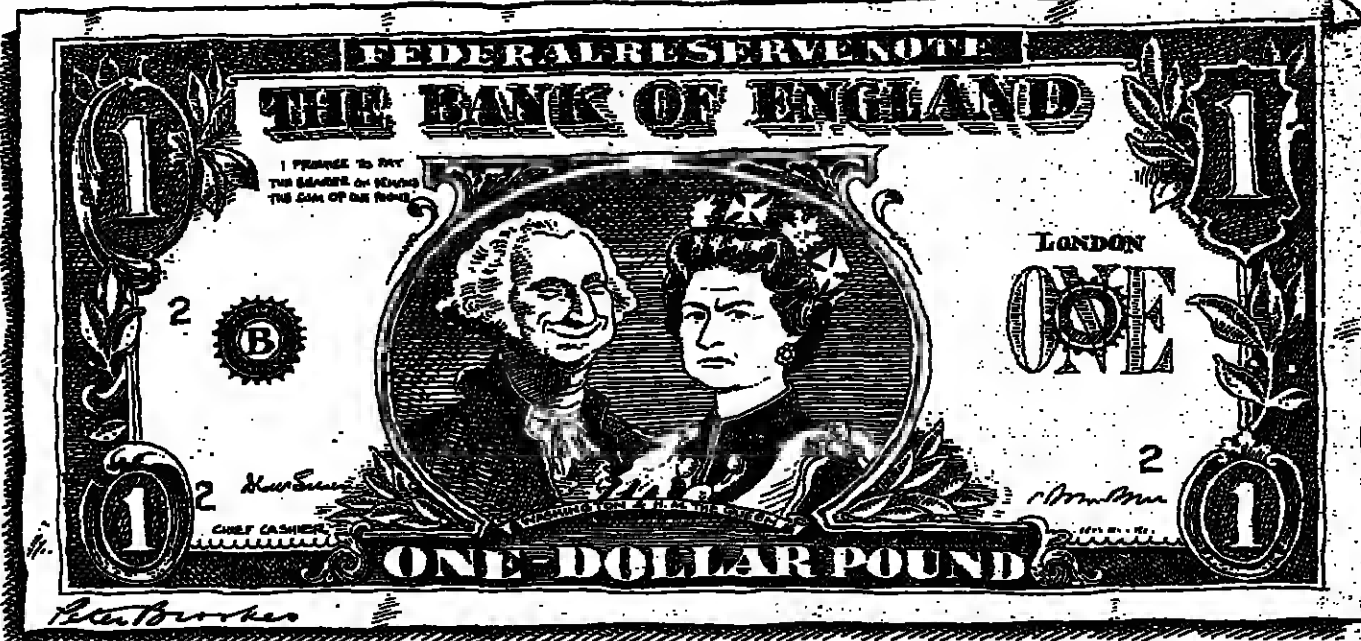
Mr Nicholas Edwards, Secretary of State for Wales, said there would be no sharp rate increases provided local authorities budgeted "responsibly".

He is asking the High Court to order the Broadcasting Complaints Commission to consider his complaint about the parties' lack of exposure on the BBC and ITV.

He said that the change in voting patterns is not being matched by television coverage, with Labour receiving five times more coverage than the Alliance.

Mr Leonard Hoffmann, QC, for the commission, said Mr Owen's complaint was about editorial policy. Rather than bring the commissioners to court, he should seek redress from the broadcasting authorities.

The hearing continues today.



Government 'gambling', Heath says

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Mr Edward Heath gave a warning last night that the Government was gambling with the country's social stability by refusing to take decisive action against unemployment.

He said in a speech to Sunderland Conservatives: "Here in the north-east of England you are asking, like people in many other parts of our country, how much longer will we, as a nation, be prepared to sit back and allow the scourge of unemployment to rage unchecked?"

"How much more of our manufacturing base must we see destroyed? How much longer can we afford to gamble with our social stability?"

Mr Heath said that it was not good enough to wait for the invisible hand of market forces to provide some benefit. Pursuit of market forces had been a tragic mistake, dealing a near-fatal blow to regional policy, and the hands-off policy on investment was the road to ruin.

"Unfettered market forces lead to the rich and the strong growing richer and stronger and the poor and the weak, poorer and weaker, until some conflagration in society acted to restore the balance," he said.

"In Britain we have largely avoided this because as one nation we have always regulated our affairs to ensure that we have all benefited from the economic progress arising from the dynamics of capitalism."

Nevertheless, the North was now becoming larger as high-level unemployment crept further south. "In economic terms," he said, "the North does now begin at Watford."

No matter how bleak the national picture, with the long-term unemployed now 40 per cent of those out of work, unemployment in the regions was far worse, with 19 per cent unemployed in the North.

Mr Heath said: "Of 131 planning regions in Europe, the North is in the bottom 12. This puts it alongside Sardinia, Sicily and Calabria as one of the 'poor men' of Europe."

Miners' strike rebels, Notts rich enough to go it alone

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The breakaway movement among working miners in the Nottinghamshire coalfield is likely to result in a new trade union that would challenge all the postwar protocol of finance, recognition and political activity in the labour movement.

According to its latest financial statement to the Government-appointed certification officer, the Nottinghamshire area of the National Union of Mineworkers had 30,339 members who paid £1,577,371 in annual subscriptions. The area, a union in its own right so far as the law is concerned, also had an investment income of £111,431 during 1983.

Some pits have closed since then, and some miners have left the industry, but if it attracted 25,000 members the nascent Nottinghamshire Miners' Association (its old title before the 1944 merger of the coalfield unions) could be viable, with a healthy income and substantial property on its books. Its fixed assets, including the headquarters at Berry Hill, Mansfield, are listed at a value of £680,604, and its total funds (including "sundry creditors") at £2,745,664.

Not a few much larger unions would like to show such a balance sheet. But there is no prospect of a breakaway union affiliating to the TUC or the Labour Party. It would be regarded as a leper.

The new union's relationships with the National Coal Board are much less clear, and are giving rise to much concern among managers.

Under the 1946 Mines Nationalization Act, the NCB is required to "enter into consultations with organizations appearing to represent substantial proportions of the persons in the employment of the board" for the establishment and maintenance of machinery for the settlement of terms and conditions of employment.

The drafters of this legislation in the post-war Attlee government did not have to address themselves to today's controversy. On the face of it, the legislation would allow the board to recognize a breakaway union in Nottinghamshire.

But the board has political anxieties about the possible impact of recognizing a rival to the NUM. The "official" miners' union has operated a de facto closed shop for many years. Two-thirds of Nottinghamshire's subscription income went to the national union.

The NUM Rule Book lays down that "the decisions of the national executive committee upon all matters shall be binding."

It is that authority that the Nottinghamshire miners, through votes at branch meetings, have determined to defy by deleting Rule 30 of the national rule book from their own area rules.

Events are moving at such a speed that the national union has been unable to determine just how to handle the revolt in Mansfield, but they are certain to take legal action if the breakaway body calls itself the "National Union of Mineworkers (Nottinghamshire)".

The split between the Nottinghamshire area of the National Union of Mineworkers and the NUM leadership comes after a series of legal actions throughout the course of the dispute.

On May 25 Nottinghamshire miners won a right-to-work order from the High Court, confirming they could not be ordered by the union to strike or not cross picket lines.

The 600-plus miners won the orders against their local leadership, the NUM executive and Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the NUM.

The Commons yesterday for working miners to come forward with evidence of intimidation.

His comments came in reply to Mr Gerald Howarth, Conservative MP for Cannock and Burntwood, who asked what steps had been taken to collect evidence that there was a conspiracy being organized by the NUM leadership which "would enable the conviction of the ringleaders."

Sir Michael told MPs that there was a scarcity of the evidence of intimidation that would be necessary before the Director of Public Prosecutions could initiate proceedings for conspiracy.

● The Home Office said yesterday that 1,305 police officers have been injured so far in the mining dispute.

● The cost of policing the dispute in Nottinghamshire has exceeded £50 million.

● The battle for £2,700,000 held frozen in a Dublin bank by the striking miners will resume in the Irish Republic's High Court on January 31.

hampshire's subscription income went to the national union.

The NUM Rule Book lays down that "the decisions of the national executive committee upon all matters shall be binding."

It is that authority that the Nottinghamshire miners, through votes at branch meetings, have determined to defy by deleting Rule 30 of the national rule book from their own area rules.

Events are moving at such a speed that the national union has been unable to determine just how to handle the revolt in Mansfield, but they are certain to take legal action if the breakaway body calls itself the "National Union of Mineworkers (Nottinghamshire)".

The Commons yesterday for working miners to come forward with evidence of intimidation.

His comments came in reply to Mr Gerald Howarth, Conservative MP for Cannock and Burntwood, who asked what steps had been taken to collect evidence that there was a conspiracy being organized by the NUM leadership which "would enable the conviction of the ringleaders."

Sir Michael told MPs that there was a scarcity of the evidence of intimidation that would be necessary before the Director of Public Prosecutions could initiate proceedings for conspiracy.

● The Home Office said yesterday that 1,305 police officers have been injured so far in the mining dispute.

● The cost of policing the dispute in Nottinghamshire has exceeded £50 million.

● The battle for £2,700,000 held frozen in a Dublin bank by the striking miners will resume in the Irish Republic's High Court on January 31.

The Commons yesterday for working miners to come forward with evidence of intimidation.

His comments came in reply to Mr Gerald Howarth, Conservative MP for Cannock and Burntwood, who asked what steps had been taken to collect evidence that there was a conspiracy being organized by the NUM leadership which "would enable the conviction of the ringleaders."

Sir Michael told MPs that there was a scarcity of the evidence of intimidation that would be necessary before the Director of Public Prosecutions could initiate proceedings for conspiracy.

● The Home Office said yesterday that 1,305 police officers have been injured so far in the mining dispute.

● The cost of policing the dispute in Nottinghamshire has exceeded £50 million.

● The battle for £2,700,000 held frozen in a Dublin bank by the striking miners will resume in the Irish Republic's High Court on January 31.

The Commons yesterday for working miners to come forward with evidence of intimidation.

His comments came in reply to Mr Gerald Howarth, Conservative MP for Cannock and Burntwood, who asked what steps had been taken to collect evidence that there was a conspiracy being organized by the NUM leadership which "would enable the conviction of the ringleaders."

Sir Michael told MPs that there was a scarcity of the evidence of intimidation that would be necessary before the Director of Public Prosecutions could initiate proceedings for conspiracy.

● The Home Office said yesterday that 1,305 police officers have been injured so far in the mining dispute.

● The cost of policing the dispute in Nottinghamshire has exceeded £50 million.

● The battle for £2,700,000 held frozen in a Dublin bank by the striking miners will resume in the Irish Republic's High Court on January 31.

The Commons yesterday for working miners to come forward with evidence of intimidation.

His comments came in reply to Mr Gerald Howarth, Conservative MP for Cannock and Burntwood, who asked what steps had been taken to collect evidence that there was a conspiracy being organized by the NUM leadership which "would enable the conviction of the ringleaders."

Sir Michael told MPs that there was a scarcity of the evidence of intimidation that would be necessary before the Director of Public Prosecutions could initiate proceedings for conspiracy.

Man jailed for girls' abduction

Ladies' Union, aged 41, an amusement arcade manager, was jailed for 18 months yesterday for abducting two girls aged 12 to the Republic of Ireland on a "rough and ready" adventure.

At the Central Criminal Court, Sir James Miskin, the Recorder told London's Old Bailey: "You showed a lack of character and thoughtlessness."

Kevin Maher, aged 25, who is educationally retarded and unemployed, of Clonmel, County Wick, was acquitted of abducting the women and a man with their children but had not wanted the girls to go to the Republic and took no part in the abduction.

The two men had also been accused of child stealing, but the judge had already told the jury he had decided there was no proof on that charge and he would direct them to return a guilty verdict.

Two escapers from police cells recaptured

Scotland Yard said yesterday that they had recaptured two men who have been on the run for the past three months. The men, Christopher Hague, aged 32, and Marek Raczynski, aged 24, escaped from Harrow police station while charged with armed robbery and other offences.

The two were arrested at a house at Laegle, Berkshire, by officers from Thames Valley police, the Yard's Flying Squad, and Central Robbery Squad, and regional crime squad. The men were also held. All five were taken to Paddington Green police station, London, where they are being questioned.

Gas blast blows man across street

Mr Tooy Bowers, aged 28, a demolition worker from Foxleth, Liverpool, was blown across a street yesterday by a gas explosion in a shop near his home. He is being treated in hospital for facial burns.

Gas board investigators said that they were satisfied with the safety of appliances they have checked at the block of flats in Putney, south London where eight people died in a gas explosion last week.

Press body plea on VAT

British newspapers should not receive less favourable treatment than their foreign counterparts, the Newspaper Society, which represents regional and local press publishers, has told the Government.

On a paper on subsidies and tax concessions, the society says that the Royal Commission on the Press in 1977 saw the VAT zero-rating of cover prices and advertising revenue as the most acceptable form of help for the industry.

Off camera

Police investigating the theft of a car yesterday up to £21 million from a Harrods shopper last week were told yesterday that the store's video security equipment had not recorded the incident.

Law Society approves complaints scheme

An arbitration scheme that will deal with allegations of negligence against solicitors has been approved in principle by the Council of the Law Society.

The scheme, as yet only in draft form, will enable aggrieved clients to submit complaints involving allegations of negligence. Where the claim involves a claim of more than £200, it will go to an arbitrator appointed by the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators.

The client will have to pay a fee of £50 and the solicitor will be bound to accept the arbitrator's findings if that is the way the client chooses to proceed.

The scheme has been agreed between the society and the institute to improve the society's machinery for handling complaints. At present it has no power to tackle negligence claims which must be pursued through the courts.

The scheme is one of the new measures undertaken by the society after the former society council member was struck off for overcharging a client by £131,000.

New credit card phones

British Telecom is to install two new types of credit card telephones, one at Heathrow Airport and the other at Waterloo railway station in London, as part of the Credit Card Pilot scheme.

Thirty-two machines will be installed at Heathrow. The machines look similar to the blue push button payphones but have an additional box for credit cards.

The user is given instructions by a recorded tape. The telephone then accepts Visa, Amex or Access cards.

At Waterloo ten telephones have been installed. These are also push button but the instructions are given to the user on a display screen.

Guilty plea on ordnance thefts

A top civil servant at the Royal Ordnance Factory at Alsegrove, Cheshire, admitted stealing more than 28,000 rounds of ammunition and a rocket launcher from the plant yesterday.

Wesley Harris, aged 36, of Heath End Road, Alsegrove, admitted conspiring to steal ammunition between 1982 and 1983.

Mr Justice McNeill ordered that charges against Harris' wife, Eva, aged 30, and son, Peter, aged 21, should be on the file after they pleaded not guilty.

Penney altered report on nuclear tests

Lord Penney, the scientist in charge of Britain's nuclear test programme to the 1950s, yesterday admitted that he had lied on changes to an independent scientific report which could have endangered the continuation of the tests.

Giving evidence to a London committee investigating the safety of the tests, Lord Penney said that the findings could have been refuted with scientific evidence.

But because of the scientific reputation of the author full publication would have caused an "almighty row", with the implication that the test programme would have been jeopardized.

Lord Penney was being questioned about his role in deleting sections of a report by Dr Hedley Marston on radioactivity in grazing sheep and cattle to various parts of Australia after the atomic tests in 1956 on Monte Bello Islands off Western Australia, and Maralinga in South Australia.

Dr Hedley found some of the highest concentrations of radioactivity in thyroid glands taken from sheep and cattle

between 1,500 and 2,000 miles from the explosion sites.

Lord Penney said that his views on safety for personnel taking part in the tests had been overridden only once, when military staff insisted on the RAF Canberra being flown through an atomic cloud.

The Times overseas selling prices: Australia \$22, Belgium 250, Canada \$22, France 250, Germany 250, Greece 150, Hong Kong \$22, India 250, Italy 250, Japan 250, New Zealand 250, Norway 250, Portugal 250, Spain 250, Sweden 250, Switzerland 250, Taiwan 250, Thailand 250, USA \$22, UK 250, Yugoslavia 250.

Students agree not to picket NF activist

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

The 16 students taken to the High Court by Mr Patrick Harrington, the National Front activist, undertook yesterday not to assist in the main library in Kentish Town, the catering, and toilet facilities in Holloway Road and Kentish Town, and the place of his examinations.

Dr John Beishon, the polytechnic's acting director, said after the hearing that he was extremely relieved that no student had been committed to jail. He said that should have a great calming effect "but we have still got to get through until the summer".

Mr Harrington withdrew both his application for commitment and his application for contempt of court and his conditional application to seize the poly-

technics assets. In return he was guaranteed, in writing, access to 51 Beowulf Road, where he is having his lecture, the main library in Kentish Town, the catering, and toilet facilities in Holloway Road and Kentish Town, and the place of his examinations.

Dr John Beishon, the polytechnic's acting director, said after the hearing that he was extremely relieved that no student had been committed to jail. He said that should have a great calming effect "but we have still got to get through until the summer".

Mr Harrington withdrew both his application for commitment and his application for contempt of court and his conditional application to seize the poly-

technics assets. In return he was guaranteed, in writing, access to 51 Beowulf Road, where he is having his lecture, the main library in Kentish Town, the catering, and toilet facilities in Holloway Road and Kentish Town, and the place of his examinations.

Dr John Beishon, the polytechnic's acting director, said after the hearing that he was extremely relieved that no student had been committed to jail. He said that should have a great calming effect "but we have still got to get through until the summer".

Mr Harrington withdrew both his application for commitment and his application for contempt of court and his conditional application to seize the poly-

technics assets. In return he was guaranteed, in writing, access to 51 Beowulf Road, where he is having his lecture, the main library in Kentish Town, the catering, and toilet facilities in Holloway Road and Kentish Town, and the place of his examinations.

Alliance's TV time unfair, Owen tells High Court

Dr David Owen, leader of the Social Democratic Party, criticized yesterday as unjust and unfair, the television time given to his party and its Liberal partners in the Alliance.

He is asking the High Court to order the Broadcasting Complaints Commission to consider his complaint about the parties' lack of exposure on the BBC and ITV.

He said that the change in voting patterns is not being matched by television coverage, with Labour receiving five times more coverage than the Alliance.

Mr Leonard Hoffmann, QC, for the commission, said Mr Owen's complaint was about editorial policy. Rather than bring the commissioners to court, he should seek redress from the broadcasting authorities.

The hearing continues today.

Monopoly used as war game

The board game Monopoly was used by M15 to help British prisoners of war to escape during the Second World War, it was revealed yesterday.

Three of John Waddington's most trusted employees worked at a special section of the firm's Leeds factory to produce specially designed sets, including escape maps, currency and a compass, for the prisoners.

Mr Victor Watson, Waddington's chairman, said: "The job was to make Monopoly sets into whose boards were inserted maps showing escape routes from the particular prison to which each game was to be sent. Into the other side of the board was inserted a tiny compass and several fine quality files."

"The Monopoly money was replaced by the money of the country to which the set was being sent - either German, Austrian or Italian."

Lord Penney, the scientist in charge of Britain's nuclear test programme to the 1950s, yesterday admitted that he had lied on changes to an independent scientific report which could have endangered the continuation of the tests.

Giving evidence to a London committee investigating the safety of the tests, Lord Penney said that the findings could have been refuted with scientific evidence.

But because of the scientific reputation of the author full publication would have caused an "almighty row", with the implication that the test programme would have been jeopardized.

Lord Penney was being questioned about his role in deleting sections of a report by Dr Hedley Marston on radioactivity in grazing sheep and cattle to various parts of Australia after the atomic tests in 1956 on Monte Bello Islands off Western Australia, and Maralinga in South Australia.

Extremists murdered diplomat, court told

From Craig Seton, Birmingham

An Indian diplomat abducted in a Birmingham street, held captive for two days and then killed by Kashmiri extremists was the victim of international terrorism caused by political troubles thousands of miles away, it was alleged at Birmingham Crown Court yesterday.

Six men have denied charges relating to the kidnapping, unlawful imprisonment and murder in February last year of Mr Davindra Mhatre, aged 48, the assistant commissioner at the Indian High Commission in Birmingham, who was found shot dead in a country lane in Leicester two days after he was dragged into a car close to this home in Bartley Green, Birmingham.

Abdul Raja, aged 28, described as a representative of the Jammu Kashmir Liberation Front, from Paris, and Mohammed Riaz, aged 23, a student, from Leicester, are charged with kidnapping, falsely imprisoning and murdering Mr Mhatre.

Mohammad Bhatti Siddique, aged 34, of the Kashmir Liberation Front offices in Birmingham, Jamnagar, Mumbai, aged 24, of Birmingham, and Abdul Ansari, aged 27, also of Birmingham, are charged with concealing and disposing of evidence relating to murder and kidnapping.

Mohammed Ishaq, aged 27, a taxi driver, of Luton, Bedfordshire, faces two charges concerning a false passport.

Mr Igor Judge, for the prosecution, told the court that Mr Mhatre, a married man with a daughter, was walking home when he was attacked, injured and bundled into a car.

He was imprisoned at an address in the same Birmingham road as the Jammu Kashmir Liberation Front offices and two days later was taken from captivity to his death.

Mr Judge said: "Although there was no formality about it and no trial, this was an execution."

The trial continues today.

Penney altered report on nuclear tests

Lord Penney, the scientist in charge of Britain's nuclear test programme to the 1950s, yesterday admitted that he had lied on changes to an independent scientific report which could have endangered the continuation of the tests.

Giving evidence to a London committee investigating the safety of the tests, Lord Penney said that the findings could have been refuted with scientific evidence.

But because of the scientific reputation of the author full publication would have caused an "almighty row", with the implication that the test programme would have been jeopardized.

Law Society approves complaints scheme

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

An arbitration scheme that will deal with allegations of negligence against solicitors has been approved in principle by the Council of the Law Society.

The scheme, as yet only in draft form, will enable aggrieved clients to submit complaints involving allegations of negligence. Where the claim involves a claim of more than £200, it will go to an arbitrator appointed by the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators.

By **Grania Forbes**, of the Press Association

Prince and Princess Michael of Kent with their two children, Lord Frederick Windsor and Lady Gabriella Windsor.


The Princess's clear sense of duty is something she is determined to pass on early to her children. Lord Frederick Windsor, aged five, and Lady Gabriella Windsor, aged three. She told them they have more responsibility than others.

She described her son as a clever child. "Imagine — he reads *The Times* to us at breakfast". Her only criticism is that he is a "hit of a softie" —

something she hopes public school will cure.

Lady Gabriella is very "Kant" in appearance — "but a bit more like me. She's a cool intellectual but really full of mischief."

The same vigour which the Princess is bringing to making her forties the decade of her authorship is evident also in her willingness to be of service in public life. "I am ready to be put to work," she said.



**By Nicholas Timmins,
Social Services
Correspondent**

The National Health Service should be more humane and considerate and do more to meet the needs of women, who are its biggest users, the Women's National Commission said yesterday.

The commission, a government advisory body with representations from all the main political parties and the 50 main national women's organizations, wants the NHS to:

- provide for better breast and cervical cancer screening services;
- special unit in each regional health authority staffed by women to deal with menstrual, gynaecological and menopause problems;
- more women specialists;
- more privacy on naked wards;
- better appointment systems to allow working women easier access to services;
- and more help for those who care for patients at home.

In a report containing 84 recommendations, the commission emphasizes that women are the main users of the National Health Service, since they represent more than half the population, and women are frequently responsible for the health of children and elderly relatives.

Yet half of all women with dependent children have a job, and the report says the NHS therefore needs to produce a service that caters for them.

The commission, which carried out a year-long survey of more than 6,000 women, found that four out of five thought that family planning clinics should extend their services to include pre-pregnancy health care, such as advice on the spacing of children diet, immunization, smoking, and alcohol.

It also urges that warning notices should appear on all medicines to be avoided just before or during pregnancy.

Women and the Health Service, Women's National Commission, Grant Offices, Grant Group, Street SW1P 3AQ. (Free)

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

by Melbourne's *Telegraph*, "relatively few newly appointed hospital doctors are conversant with the consequences of the frequent lack of familiarity with resuscitation equipment at cardiac arrests is frequently embarrassing obvious."

In the survey, 50 junior doctors at Addenbrooke's completed a 20-minute written test and were then shown a resuscitation mannequin.

They were asked to assume it was a patient, apparently unconscious, and were asked to demonstrate their initial management. The mannequin was observed for two minutes and, whenever possible, were on video.

The average score in the written test was 50 per cent, but none of the doctors in the practical test would have fulfilled a particular set of criteria for effective basic cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Only four doctors were able to ventilate the mannequin and perform cardiac massage in an effective manner.

Dr Casey suggests that video recordings can be valuable teaching aids, that all students should train with mannequins, and that such a test should be part of their final MB examinations.

Every hospital should have a consultant with responsibility for resuscitation and co-ordinating a training programme, he says.

'Crossroads' actors go

Four leading characters are being removed from *Crossroads*, the television motel soap opera, in a shake-up aimed at raising the number of viewers.

Ronald Allen and Sue Lloyd, who play the motel's proprietors David and Barbara Hunter, and Lynette McWhirter and David Moran, who play Linda and Kevin Banks, are to go.

New characters are to replace them, one of whom will be played by a household name, Central Television said last night.

Philip Bowman, the producer, said the character of Benny Hawkins, played by Paul Henry, a regular in the cast for 10 years, would have "a very interesting future at the motel".

He said *Crossroads*, with a regular audience of about 11 million, was competing now with the new series *Enders*, which had been given an increased budget and "a very bright future."

By Robin Young

Shops in many parts of Britain were obliged to ration sales of cheap EEC butter yesterday as it went on sale at 42p from 35p to 42p for a 250 gramme pack.

The maximum price set on the 39,200 tonnes withdrawn from the EEC cold stores for sale in Britain is 42p - 10p below the average price. Most supermarkets are selling the butter 13p or 14p below the price of their cheapest brand.

In London there was confusion and disappointment about the offer. Branches of Woolworth and Presto had sold out last week, in advance of the release, recommended within the trade.

Safeway, Bejam, Lipton and branches of the Spar and Mace chains still have to receive supplies. Where there were supplies, there was no rush of customers. At Tesco's in Stroud Green Road, north London, customers continued to buy their favourite brands in preference to EEC butter which was 14p cheaper.

In Cardiff, Liverpool and Northern Ireland supermarkets were restricting customers to six packs. A few shops were giving



Mrs Shirley O'Neill of Crouch End, with her EEC letter.

priority to pensioners and the unemployed, and stores in Nottingham, Norwich and Derby reported that they were likely to be sold out by mid-week.

Branches of the Co-op have posted warnings that the butter is not suitable for freezing, which is denied by the Ministry of Agriculture. It said: "Obviously this butter has been in store quite some time, and is not the freshest it is possible to buy".

Two dealers in aquatic plants

Two dealers in aquatic plants were fined £250 each at a Norfolk magistrates court yesterday for introducing a rare wild plant in what was thought to be the first case of its kind under the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981.

Michael Franklin of Temple Lane, Temple Balsall, Southluff, West Midlands, and David Haslam, of Nottingham Road, Ashby de la Zouch, Leicestershire, both aged 37, denied introducing plants of the water soldier (*Stratiotes almidis*) at Hovers on the Ludham Marshes, Norfolk, last May.

They are considering an appeal.

North Walsham magistrates were told by Mrs Marjory Arnold, of Fritton Road, North Walsham, that when she realized the men were collecting the plants she noted the number of their van and told the police.

Mr Harold Dollman, now retired as chief warden of the 77-acre nature reserve at Ludham, said he had found more than 100 plants lying along the banks of the dykes. He said: "The plant is a monopoly area. They grow in the water floating on the top, and have a white flower."



My job takes me away from my PC.—but nothing takes me away from my Hewlett Packard Portable.

Working away from the office means working away from the facilities you need to work. Unless you have The Portable®

The Portable is a fully portable micro computer, weighing under 9 pounds - yet it has all the features you would expect from a desktop machine.

Programs stored in ROM mean you can go to work with full Wordprocessing on MemoMaker, and statistical and spreadsheet functions with Lotus 1-2-3.[®]

The Portable uses industry standard MS-DOS,[®] so you can also run all the special software your profession needs.

Work when you are away from work, and plug in to your desktop PC* when you get back to the office. Or you can use our battery powered range of Portable drives, printers and modems, which can travel with you wherever you go.

LCD, 128 x 480 pixel bit-mapped graphics – and a full-sized keyboard – The Portable has more power than many 'full-sized' computers. And a 'Help' function will make sure you can start using your Portable right away.

In fact, with The Portable, you might never want to go back to the office at all.

For more information complete the coupon, or call your nearest HP Dealer for a demonstration.

MS DOS® is a trademark of Microsoft Inc.
Lotus 1-2-3® are trademarks of Lotus Development Corp.
*The Portable is data-compatible with the IBM PC.

Send to: Freepost Enquiry Section,
Hewlett-Packard Ltd, Eskdale
Road, Warrington, Warrington, Cheshire, WA1 1LF

Please send me full details on the Hewlett-Packard Portable. Tick here if you already have a desktop computer: ☐

PC type _____
Name _____

Position _____
Company _____
Address _____

Postcode _____ Telephone _____


**HEWLETT
PACKARD**
TIM CH

THE

1. *Phragmites* (common in the marshes of the lower Mississippi River and in the coastal marshes of the Gulf of Mexico).

5

By Bill Johnstone

Technology Correspondent

A substantial levy on audio and video blank tapes and legislation to curb the growing number of music rental stores could be put from the Soviet Union's Green Paper on tape copying to be published later this month.

The British Phonographic Industry, an organization which represents music producers and distributors, estimates that about \$50 million sales a year are lost by illicit copying of music. The new shops which lease records for about 50p a night, the organization claims, increase the likelihood of copying and make it harder to control.

The British Videogram Association has also called for a levy on blank video tapes. Video piracy costs the film industry about \$20 million each year, the association has said, and for a levy to be placed on equipment but the indications are that only a tape-levy will be approved.

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

With the threat of surcharge on next summer's foreign package holidays growing, one of the big tour operators is growing its airport parking off yesterday in try to boost flagging bookings.

Rank Travel, part of Rank Organisation, which is already offering free parking at Gatwick, is now expanding upon Tyne and Manchester airports for off-peak summer holidays, extended the offer yesterday to peak-period holidays in July and August. The offer is mostly for the benefit of the holidaymaker. To benefit a holidaymaker has to book before March 18.

This offer is to stimulate bookings, as evidence grows that an increasing number of holidaymakers are delaying decisions on their main summer holiday.

Reports in the trade suggest that bookings are coming in more quickly after a 30 to 40 per cent decline during the last few months of 1984; but bookings are apparently still about a fifth down compared with the corresponding period last year.

Travel says it is better off than many in the trade, but nevertheless is down 3 per cent cumulatively on package tours.

A warning that big reductions in the price of package holidays would not be expected later in the booking season came from Mr Angus Crichton-Mille, managing director of Rank Organisation's holidays and recreation division. He said: "There are fewer holidays on offer this year. People would do well to book earlier."

Surcharges on next summer's holiday packages are already being widely anticipated. The industry is expected to look more weakly and, with final invoicing being made rather more than two months ahead of the holiday, the tour operators are expected to make more decisions within the few weeks about the level of the surcharge.

[illegible]

Chancellor blames the siren voices

STERLING

It would be unwise to assume that £1,500 million would be available for tax reductions in the Budget, Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said when replying to questions in the Commons about interest rates and the Government's decision to reintroduce a minimum lending rate.

Mr Lawson said the Bank of England's announcement of a 12 per cent minimum lending rate had demonstrated the Government's resolve to maintain sound monetary conditions and to take whatever steps were necessary to ensure continued success in the battle against inflation.

Movements of the exchange rate on the markets over the past few days had been fully reported, he said. Successive governments had made it their practice not to make statements about the level of the exchange rate. He did not intend to depart from that practice.

Mr Roy Hattersley, Deputy Leader of the Opposition and spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs, said: 'Today's events demonstrate that Government economic policy is a shambles.

Its inadequacy has been emphasized by the Government's incompetence and vacillation over the past week.

Will he confirm that the interest rate has been at the figure the Government inherited from Labour in 1979? There have been public expenditure cuts, unemployment at once more to market forces or is today's open intervention an admission that Mr Lawson's supine inactivity over the past fortnight contributed to today's crisis?

Mr Lawson said this was right. That was his own view and that of the Government and of most European governments. He was going to Washington on Wednesday for a discussion with the American Treasury Secretary and other financial ministers and these matters would be discussed.

Mr Richard Wainwright (Colne Valley, L) suggested that Mr Lawson, to avoid even further damage, should reverse the foreign exchange operators in recent weeks that he had been relying on the pound's weakness against the dollar to secure a large part of the Government's foreign exchange requirements.

Would Mr Lawson make clear at last that he did not intend to use the pound's weakness to secure a large part of the Government's foreign exchange requirements?

Mr Lawson said he had given no such indication.

The objective of Government policy is to bring down and hold down rates of inflation still further. That we have succeeded in doing and he consequently failed to do, despite the fact that on a number of occasions he described it as the central objective of his policy.

When the new arrangements for monetary control were published on August 5, 1981 in a Treasury press notice, it had said that the Bank of England would cease to post minimum lending rates, as being inconsistent with new arrangements then introduced. It had added that the option would be retained for use in certain circumstances for a short period to announce in advance the rate of lending of the Bank in the market.

A number of factors have been at play: uncertainty over the level of oil prices; the sharp rise in the dollar against other currencies; doubts about the Government's resolve to persist with its counter-inflation policy in the light of continued pleas for still higher government borrowing and public expenditure.

The Government decision today demonstrates that those siren voices cannot be listened to if inflation is to be brought under control. That is the purpose of our action.

Mr Terence Higgins (Worthing, C) said it was essential to look at international events; the high rate of the dollar had been a major factor in the problem. Would renewed representations be made to the United States administration on the need to reduce their deficit and interest rates?

Mr Lawson said this was right. That was his own view and that of the Government and of most European governments. He was going to Washington on Wednesday for a discussion with the American Treasury Secretary and other financial ministers and these matters would be discussed.

Mr Richard Wainwright (Colne Valley, L) suggested that Mr Lawson, to avoid even further damage, should reverse the foreign exchange operators in recent weeks that he had been relying on the pound's weakness against the dollar to secure a large part of the Government's foreign exchange requirements.

Would Mr Lawson make clear at last that he did not intend to use the pound's weakness to secure a large part of the Government's foreign exchange requirements?

Mr Lawson said he had given no such indication.

Mr David Howell (Guildford, C) said the main influences on sterling, a strong dollar and oil prices, were largely outside the Government's control. But the outlook on inflation was good. Could it be assumed that this hike in interest rates would be relatively short lived?

The situation would be rather smoother if Britain now joined the European Monetary System.

Mr Lawson said interest rates would remain at this level for no longer than was necessary to secure proper monetary control, proper monetary conditions and the continued success against inflation.

Full EMS membership was continuously under review but that was a financial discipline of its own kind. It required the use of interest rates whenever it was necessary to maintain a particular parity.

Mr Robert Sheldon (Aston under Lyne, Lab) said it was three years after abandoning minimum lending rate he is returning to it because a clear signal was required that the Government had a serious interest in exchange rate policy.

Did this not show the irrelevance of the government's monetary supply policies?

Mr Lawson: Not at all. This was deliberately retained for use in these circumstances where it was necessary for a clear signal to be given of the Government's policy and resolve. This has been given and the arrangements which did not involve the posting of a particular minimum lending rate.

Mr Peter Horner (Horsham, C) said the new interest rate levels must partly, at least, reflect the expansion of credit on the broad measurement, does Mr Lawson still think it appropriate that there should be £1,500 million available for reduction in tax on oil?

Mr Lawson: I have as yet no reason to depart from the position I gave at the time of the autumn statement in November. But of course I shall be reviewing it, as I indicated at the time, before the Budget. It would be unwise to assume that that amount of tax reduction can necessarily be given but these matters will have to be reviewed at the time of the Budget and there is no point in speculating at this time.

Mr Kenneth Porter (South Down, DUP) asked Mr Lawson if he agreed that provided the Government could fund its borrowing requirement and meet its first obligations, which were its first obligation,

nothing but benefit could accrue to the economy and the unemployed from the prospect of a fall in oil prices and the sustained fall in the exchange rate of sterling.

Mr Lawson said he had always understood it was part of Mr Powell's credo not to express particular views on the desirability of particular price levels for particular commodities. That went for oil, too.

Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark (Birmingham Selly Oak, C) said some of us will be disappointed by this departure from a free market economy. Will Mr Lawson ask the building societies to take no precipitous action to raise mortgages for at least one month?

Mr Lawson: The level of mortgage rates is a matter for the building societies, but I am sure they would have heard what he said.

Mr Ian Wrigglesworth (Stockton South, SDP): The panic measures which the Government has taken are a direct consequence of the complacency and contradictory statements of the Government.

Mr Lawson: Not at all. This was deliberately retained for use in these circumstances where it was necessary for a clear signal to be given of the Government's policy and resolve. This has been given and the arrangements which did not involve the posting of a particular minimum lending rate.

Mr Peter Horner (Horsham, C) said the new interest rate levels must partly, at least, reflect the expansion of credit on the broad measurement, does Mr Lawson still think it appropriate that there should be £1,500 million available for reduction in tax on oil?

Mr Lawson: I have as yet no reason to depart from the position I gave at the time of the autumn statement in November. But of course I shall be reviewing it, as I indicated at the time, before the Budget. It would be unwise to assume that that amount of tax reduction can necessarily be given but these matters will have to be reviewed at the time of the Budget and there is no point in speculating at this time.

Mr Kenneth Porter (South Down, DUP) asked Mr Lawson if he agreed that provided the Government could fund its borrowing requirement and meet its first obligations, which were its first obligation,

nothing but benefit could accrue to the economy and the unemployed from the prospect of a fall in oil prices and the sustained fall in the exchange rate of sterling.

Mr Lawson said he had always understood it was part of Mr Powell's credo not to express particular views on the desirability of particular price levels for particular commodities. That went for oil, too.

Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark (Birmingham Selly Oak, C) said some of us will be disappointed by this departure from a free market economy. Will Mr Lawson ask the building societies to take no precipitous action to raise mortgages for at least one month?

Mr Lawson: The level of mortgage rates is a matter for the building societies, but I am sure they would have heard what he said.

Mr Ian Wrigglesworth (Stockton South, SDP): The panic measures which the Government has taken are a direct consequence of the complacency and contradictory statements of the Government.

Mr Lawson: Not at all. This was deliberately retained for use in these circumstances where it was necessary for a clear signal to be given of the Government's policy and resolve. This has been given and the arrangements which did not involve the posting of a particular minimum lending rate.

Mr Peter Horner (Horsham, C) said the new interest rate levels must partly, at least, reflect the expansion of credit on the broad measurement, does Mr Lawson still think it appropriate that there should be £1,500 million available for reduction in tax on oil?

Mr Lawson: I have as yet no reason to depart from the position I gave at the time of the autumn statement in November. But of course I shall be reviewing it, as I indicated at the time, before the Budget. It would be unwise to assume that that amount of tax reduction can necessarily be given but these matters will have to be reviewed at the time of the Budget and there is no point in speculating at this time.

Mr Kenneth Porter (South Down, DUP) asked Mr Lawson if he agreed that provided the Government could fund its borrowing requirement and meet its first obligations, which were its first obligation,

nothing but benefit could accrue to the economy and the unemployed from the prospect of a fall in oil prices and the sustained fall in the exchange rate of sterling.

Mr Lawson said he had always understood it was part of Mr Powell's credo not to express particular views on the desirability of particular price levels for particular commodities. That went for oil, too.

Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark (Birmingham Selly Oak, C) said some of us will be disappointed by this departure from a free market economy. Will Mr Lawson ask the building societies to take no precipitous action to raise mortgages for at least one month?

Mr Lawson: The level of mortgage rates is a matter for the building societies, but I am sure they would have heard what he said.

Mr Ian Wrigglesworth (Stockton South, SDP): The panic measures which the Government has taken are a direct consequence of the complacency and contradictory statements of the Government.

Mr Lawson: Not at all. This was deliberately retained for use in these circumstances where it was necessary for a clear signal to be given of the Government's policy and resolve. This has been given and the arrangements which did not involve the posting of a particular minimum lending rate.

Mr Peter Horner (Horsham, C) said the new interest rate levels must partly, at least, reflect the expansion of credit on the broad measurement, does Mr Lawson still think it appropriate that there should be £1,500 million available for reduction in tax on oil?

Mr Lawson: I have as yet no reason to depart from the position I gave at the time of the autumn statement in November. But of course I shall be reviewing it, as I indicated at the time, before the Budget. It would be unwise to assume that that amount of tax reduction can necessarily be given but these matters will have to be reviewed at the time of the Budget and there is no point in speculating at this time.

Mr Kenneth Porter (South Down, DUP) asked Mr Lawson if he agreed that provided the Government could fund its borrowing requirement and meet its first obligations, which were its first obligation,

also did not take unilateral action which would affect oil prices as this could be regarded as an unfriendly act by other countries and lead to an oil price war.

Mr Lawson: It has been Government policy for many years that oil prices should be in line with the market. Nevertheless the BNOC realizes that it has a duty to conduct its policies which cause as little disruption as possible politically and economically.

Mr Gordon Brown (Dunfermline East, Lab): Will Mr Lawson stop blaming everyone but himself? In 1980 he said the pound was high and strengthened because investors overseas believed in it. Now it is half as high what does he think their reason is?

Mr Lawson: Three factors are affecting the exchange rate: oil prices have weakened; the strength of the dollar; and there are doubts about whether the monetary conditions are consistent with a lower rate of inflation and that public expenditure may be running too high.

Mr Robert McClelland (Brentwood and Ongar, C): It is about time we took out American allies that are putting the union's funds in a way that is quite disgraceful and illegal as there has been no ballot.

Mr Michael Havers: On Friday there were three different actions before the High Court in all of which the plaintiffs were working miners. They were from South Wales and other mining areas.

The sequestration order and the indemnity which have arisen from the union's funds in the way that is quite disgraceful and illegal as there has been no ballot.

Mr Michael Havers: On Friday there were three different actions before the High Court in all of which the plaintiffs were working miners. They were from South Wales and other mining areas.

The sequestration order and the indemnity which have arisen from the union's funds in the way that is quite disgraceful and illegal as there has been no ballot.

Mr Michael Havers: On Friday there were three different actions before the High Court in all of which the plaintiffs were working miners. They were from South Wales and other mining areas.

The sequestration order and the indemnity which have arisen from the union's funds in the way that is quite disgraceful and illegal as there has been no ballot.

Mr Michael Havers: On Friday there were three different actions before the High Court in all of which the plaintiffs were working miners. They were from South Wales and other mining areas.

The sequestration order and the indemnity which have arisen from the union's funds in the way that is quite disgraceful and illegal as there has been no ballot.

Mr Michael Havers: On Friday there were three different actions before the High Court in all of which the plaintiffs were working miners. They were from South Wales and other mining areas.

The sequestration order and the indemnity which have arisen from the union's funds in the way that is quite disgraceful and illegal as there has been no ballot.

Mr Michael Havers: On Friday there were three different actions before the High Court in all of which the plaintiffs were working miners. They were from South Wales and other mining areas.

The sequestration order and the indemnity which have arisen from the union's funds in the way that is quite disgraceful and illegal as there has been no ballot.

Mr Michael Havers: On Friday there were three different actions before the High Court in all of which the plaintiffs were working miners. They were from South Wales and other mining areas.

The sequestration order and the indemnity which have arisen from the union's funds in the way that is quite disgraceful and illegal as there has been no ballot.

Mr Michael Havers: On Friday there were three different actions before the High Court in all of which the plaintiffs were working miners. They were from South Wales and other mining areas.

The sequestration order and the indemnity which have arisen from the union's funds in the way that is quite disgraceful and illegal as there has been no ballot.

Mr Michael Havers: On Friday there were three different actions before the High Court in all of which the plaintiffs were working miners. They were from South Wales and other mining areas.

The sequestration order and the indemnity which have arisen from the union's funds in the way that is quite disgraceful and illegal as there has been no ballot.

Mr Michael Havers: On Friday there were three different actions before the High Court in all of which the plaintiffs were working miners. They were from South Wales and other mining areas.

The sequestration order and the indemnity which have arisen from the union's funds in the way that is quite disgraceful and illegal as there has been no ballot.

Mr Michael Havers: On Friday there were three different actions before the High Court in all of which the plaintiffs were working miners. They were from South Wales and other mining areas.

The sequestration order and the indemnity which have arisen from the union's funds in the way that is quite disgraceful and illegal as there has been no ballot.

Miners not getting advice from Tories

SEQUESTRATION

It was simply not true to say that miners who had brought court actions against the NUM were acting on the advice of the Conservative Party, Mr Michael Havers, the Attorney General, emphasised during Commons questions.

Mr Robert Adley (Christchurch, C) had asked the Attorney General whether the Conservative Party allies were doing their best to put about the story that it was the Government who were somehow instigating these legal actions.

Will he (asked) the Attorney General and other Government ministers take every opportunity to remind the public this is not the case.

These actions are being brought by working miners who feel that Mr Arthur Scargill, President of the NUM, and his colleagues are putting the union's funds in a way that is quite disgraceful and illegal as there has been no ballot.

Mr Michael Havers: On Friday there were three different actions before the High Court in all of which the plaintiffs were working miners. They were from South Wales and other mining areas.

The sequestration order and the indemnity which have arisen from the union's funds in the way that is quite disgraceful and illegal as there has been no ballot.

Mr Michael Havers: On Friday there were three different actions before the High Court in all of which the plaintiffs were working miners. They were from South Wales and other mining areas.

The sequestration order and the indemnity which have arisen from the union's funds in the way that is quite disgraceful and illegal as there has been no ballot.

Mr Michael Havers: On Friday there were three different actions before the High Court in all of which the plaintiffs were working miners. They were from South Wales and other mining areas.

The sequestration order and the indemnity which have arisen from the union's funds in the way that is quite disgraceful and illegal as there has been no ballot.

Mr Michael Havers: On Friday there were three different actions before the High Court in all of which the plaintiffs were working miners. They were from South Wales and other mining areas.

The sequestration order and the indemnity which have arisen from the union's funds in the way that is quite disgraceful and illegal as there has been no ballot.

Mr Michael Havers: On Friday there were three different actions before the High Court in all of which the plaintiffs were working miners. They were from South Wales and other mining areas.

The sequestration order and the indemnity which have arisen from the union's funds in the way that is quite disgraceful and illegal as there has been no ballot.

Mr Michael Havers: On Friday there were three different actions before the High Court in all of which the plaintiffs were working miners. They were from South Wales and other mining areas.

The sequestration order and the indemnity which have arisen from the union's funds in the way that is quite disgraceful and illegal as there has been no ballot.

Mr Michael Havers: On Friday there were three different actions before the High Court in all of which the plaintiffs were working miners. They were from South Wales and other mining areas.

The sequestration order and the indemnity which have arisen from the union's funds in the way that is quite disgraceful and illegal as there has been no ballot.

Mr Michael Havers: On Friday there were three different actions before the High Court in all of which the plaintiffs were working miners. They were from South Wales and other mining areas.

The sequestration order and the indemnity which have arisen from the union's funds in the way that is quite disgraceful and illegal as there has been no ballot.

Mr Michael Havers: On Friday there were three different actions before the High Court in all of which the plaintiffs were working miners. They were from South Wales and other mining areas.

The sequestration order and the indemnity which have arisen from the union's funds in the way that is quite disgraceful and illegal as there has been no ballot.

Mr Michael Havers: On Friday there were three different actions before the High Court in all of which the plaintiffs were working miners. They were from South Wales and other mining areas.

The sequestration order and the indemnity which have arisen from the union's funds in the way that is quite disgraceful and illegal as there has been no ballot.

Mr Michael Havers: On Friday there were three different actions before the High Court in all of which the plaintiffs were working miners. They were from South Wales and other mining areas.

The sequestration order and the indemnity which have arisen from the union's funds in the way that is quite disgraceful and illegal as there has been no ballot.

Depositors and staff to have priority in buying TSB shares

BANKING

It was incumbent upon the Government to resolve the question of ownership of the Trustee Savings Banks and it was therefore enabling them to be removed from a sort of no man's land and given private sector status, Mr Ian Stewart, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, said in the Commons.

It was intended that after the enactment of the Trustee Savings Banks Bill, the second reading of which he was moving, there would be an issue of shares in which staff and depositors would have priority and the money raised would go to develop the banks.

The Bill had been described as a privatization measure but there was a fundamental difference because the Government did not own the TSBs, and nor did their employees, depositors or trustees, so they were not being taken out of the public sector.

The Bill would enable the banks to reorganise to the same basis as the major banks with which they competed in the high street.

The arrangements in the Bill had been discussed between the banks, the TSBs themselves to enable them to develop for the future.

The Bill would enable the banks to reorganise to the same basis as the major banks with which they competed in the high street.

The arrangements in the Bill had been discussed between the banks, the TSBs themselves to enable them to develop for the future.

The Bill would enable the banks to reorganise to the same basis as the major banks with which they competed in the high street.

The arrangements in the Bill had been discussed between the banks, the TSBs themselves to enable them to develop for the future.

The Bill would enable the banks to reorganise to the same basis as the major banks with which they competed in the high street.

The arrangements in the Bill had been discussed between the banks, the TSBs themselves to enable them to develop for the future.

The Bill would enable the banks to reorganise to the same basis as the major banks with which they competed in the high street.

The arrangements in the Bill had been discussed between the banks, the TSBs themselves to enable them to develop for the future.

The Bill would enable the banks to reorganise to the same basis as the major banks with which they competed in the high street.

The arrangements in the Bill had been discussed between the banks, the TSBs themselves to enable them to develop for the future.

The Bill would enable the banks to reorganise to the same basis as the major banks with which they competed in the high street.

The arrangements in the Bill had been discussed between the banks, the TSBs themselves to enable them to develop for the future.

The Bill would enable the banks to reorganise to the same basis as the major banks with which they competed in the high street.

The arrangements in the Bill had been discussed between the banks, the TSBs themselves to enable them to develop for the future.

The Bill would enable the banks to reorganise to the same basis as the major banks with which they competed in the high street.

The arrangements in the Bill had been discussed between the banks, the TSBs themselves to enable them to develop for the future.

The Bill would enable the banks to reorganise to the same basis as the major banks with which they competed in the high street.

The arrangements in the Bill had been discussed between the banks, the TSBs themselves to enable them to develop for the future.

The Bill would enable the banks to reorganise to the same basis as the major banks with which they competed in the high street.

The arrangements in the Bill had been discussed between the banks, the TSBs themselves to enable them to develop for the future.

The Bill would enable the banks to reorganise to the same basis as the major banks with which they competed in the high street.

Military efficiency

BLACK ROD

During his seven years as Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod and Secretary to the Lord Great Chamberlain, Lt Gen Sir David House had given outstanding service, Viscount Whitelaw, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House of Lords, said in paying tribute before the commencement of business in the House of Lords, to Sir David on his retirement.

His successor, Air Chief Marshal Sir John Giggell, is the first Royal Air Force Officer to hold the post which dates back to the fourteenth century.

Sir David had taken on the many and varied duties of Black Rod after a distinguished career in the army culminating in his appointment as General Officer Commanding in Northern Ireland from 1975 to 1977. Viscount Whitelaw said, The contrast between the two must have been striking but by the way he had discharged his duties with efficiency and humour.

He had been responsible for the work of the restoration of the ceiling to the House of Lords and had played a large part in the introduction of the experiment to televise the House of Lords. Sir David had also had responsibility for security at a time when security had assumed special importance.

His successor, Air Chief Marshal Sir John Giggell, is the first Royal Air Force Officer to hold the post which dates back to the fourteenth century.

Powers intended to protect house-buyers

CONVEYANCING

The more important part of the administration of the Bill, Lord Chancellor, said in moving its second reading to the House of Lords, was the extension of the Law Society's disciplinary powers, which would enable licensed conveyancers who were not solicitors to undertake conveyancing for reward, and provisions for implementing the machinery for dealing with legal aid complaints.

The Council of Licensed Conveyancers will under the Bill ensure standards of competence are adequate to provide consumer protection.

The Council will make rules for indemnifying licensed conveyancers against claims for civil liability and for compensating those who have suffered losses through the negligence, fraud or dishonesty of licensed conveyancers.

Buying a house was the largest financial transaction most people would undertake in their lives, Lord Hailsham said, but the consequences of incompetence might not become apparent for many years, perhaps not even until the house came to be resold.

So it is not an area where public interest would be well served by unrestricted competition (he said). Restrictions on competition must be examined critically to ensure they go no wider than is necessary for consumer protection.

One of the changes relating to procedure and power to the High Court was aimed at providing that in future no appeal should be allowed from the decision of the High Court to refuse leave to appeal to the Judicial Review in a civil case.

Lord Elwyn-Jones, for the Opposition, said there had been almost

universal condemnation of a clause which gave the right of appeal to the Court of Appeal from the decision of the High Court refusing an application for leave to apply for judicial review. The Times today carried a powerful letter denouncing this proposal in appropriately emphatic terms.

If effect was given to this, it would involve a serious curtailment of the right of those complaining that government officials or public bodies had acted beyond their powers or unlawfully. It was particularly important in regard to the protection of rights and rights of immigrants and was often the only way to obtain an independent review of a Home Office decision before that decision was implemented, the only way to test the lawfulness of decisions of immigration appeal tribunals.

From other administrative bodies, like planning bodies, there was an appeal to the High Court on points of law. Immigrants did not have this right. They had to rely upon judicial review to protect them from abuse of executive power or authority.

At present, if the High Court refused leave for a judicial review it would be ordered the applicant could appeal to the Court of Appeal. Why was this right to be abolished? No evidence had been produced to show that it had been abused. There had been few such appeals in practice. When they were made frequently the issues raised were of major public importance. It would be quite wrong to shut out access to the Court of Appeal in respect of judicial review.

Lord Foot (L) said the whole concept of the institution of a new profession for licensed conveyancing was mistaken. He did not think the new institution was going to work or that its elaborate structure would have any significant benefit for the public at large.

Mr Ridley: Over 40 per cent of the population use buses, a large clientele indeed. I am sure that the proposals in the Bill are those designed to improve the lot of passengers rather than operators.

Mr Ray Hughes (Newport East, Lab): The proposals are causing great anxiety. Will Mr Ridley appreciate that many people with vast experience of the transport industry believe that de-regulation will be a recipe for disaster?

Is it time to rethink the matter and enter into further discussions with the local authorities, trade unions and other voluntary bodies, such as the National Federation of Women's Institutes?

Mr Ridley: If Mr Hughes really has the interests of passengers at heart, he will try to reassure them that the Government's proposals will not only increase the standard and frequency of services, but also reduce fares in some instances as well.

Mrs Gwyneth Dawood, chief Opposition spokesman on transport, said the elimination of cross-subsidy between routes would damage, above all, those living in rural areas.

Mr Ridley: She has got it wrong again. If she studies the effects of the trial area in Hereford and Worcester she will find that the absence of cross-subsidy there has brought a reduction in the subsidy, with the same network being provided in the rural area, together with much lower fares in many cases.

During further exchanges, she urged all cyclists to make sure their bikes were properly fitted and warned that they were putting themselves in terrible jeopardy if their lights were not in proper working order.

Bus Bill running late

TRANSPORT

Publication of the Bus Bill was running a little late because there had been an enormous number of representations and it was important to take great care to design the detailed provisions to facilitate the transitional period before the deregulated regime, Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, said during Commons questions. It would be published very shortly.

He said he did not think that franchisees would achieve anything like the same scale of benefit which the Government's proposals for full competition in the White Paper would bring.

This was because county councils would, under franchising proposals, put their judgement as to what was the right pattern of supply to meet the market rather than allowing the market to determine the pattern of supply of bus services.

Franchisees would also be protected from competition and that would have the effect of not bringing about the full benefit of reduced costs which they believed would come from allowing full competition.

Earlier Mr Ridley told Mr Antony Marlow (Newcastle North, C) that the Bus

WILL THE NEW 740 UPHOLD THE VOLVO TRADITION?

The car on the bottom is Volvo's new 740 saloon.

The cars on the top are Volvos from the past, all noted for their strength and solidity.

As you can see, the 740 is not at all burdened by this reputation.

(In fact, it could have taken the weight of three more cars with ease.)

It's built around an incredibly strong steel safety cage.

Even the roof is reinforced with box-type profiles that effectively act as roll bars. (You can imagine how effective they'd be.)

But if the 740 has all the traditional Volvo virtues (including power assisted steering) it also has some attractions of its own.

Its 2.3-litre engine is remarkably free of internal friction. (This makes it both fast and frugal.)

The new interior takes 5 in comfort, with more elbow room in the back seat than a Daimler.

The rear suspension is patently so much better than the competition we took out a patent.

You can judge all these attractions (and more) at your Volvo dealer now. It's well worth a visit.

Any car that can survive at the bottom of our stack ought to be on the top of your list.

To: Volvo, Springfield House,
Mill Avenue, Bristol BS1 4SA.

Please send me further details.

Mr/Mrs/Miss

Address

Postcode

THE NEW VOLVO 740. FROM £9249.



Civil Service unions launch merger campaign

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

The two largest civil service unions yesterday launched a campaign for a merger to create a new 230,000-strong union in spite of reservations by workers in some government offices.

A merger document will go to the annual conferences of the Civil and Public Services Association (CPSA) and the Society of Civil and Public Servants (SCPS) in the spring.

If it is approved, ballots will be held in the autumn with the aim of starting the merger process on January 1 next year. There would be a three-year transitional period until the merger is completed in 1989.

There is likely to be opposition from significant numbers of members of the CPSA, whose clerical workers may be suspicious of joining forces with a union representing mainly executive grade staff who are their managers.

Attempts are likely to be made at the CPSA conference in Brighton in May to delay the merger proposal for at least a year to allow further negotiations.

Thames moves, and any similar manoeuvres in the SCPS, will be strongly resisted by the union leadership.

The CPSA in particular is facing financial problems because of the loss within the next two months of 40,000 members in British Telecom to the Post Office Engineering Union.

An annual income of more than £1 million a year will be lost, although a "transfer fee" of almost £4 million will be paid by the Post Office Union.

Mr Alistair Graham, general secretary of the CPSA, said yesterday that with declining memberships and a hostile employer there was a need for the unions to amalgamate.

He was convinced that an initial merger would be the catalyst for further reforms in the Civil Service trade union movement, leading eventually to a single 500,000-strong union "that will be able to face up to this Government".

The other unions most likely to join a new Union of Civil and Public Services would be the small Civil Service Union and Inland Revenue Staff Federation.

Mr Gerry Gillman, general secretary of the SCPS, said that the existence of two unions helped to polarize attitudes between those managed and their managers, but once both groups were members of a single union he hoped that differences would disappear.

The new union, which would be the eleventh largest in the TUC, could become a powerful lobbying grouping because, at present both unions are controlled by the left.

Big freeze triggers extra help with bills

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

Tens of thousands of pensioners and other claimants on supplementary benefit are likely to be entitled to extra help with their fuel bills because of the cold weather.

Last week's freeze triggered the allowances for "exceptionally severe weather" in much of East Anglia and parts of Essex, Bedfordshire, and Hampshire, the Department of Health and Social Security said yesterday. The continuing cold weather may lead to other areas qualifying.

The payments are ruled by a formula of barometric complexity which takes the number of days and degrees the weather is below a guideline temperature in a given meteorological office area, and then compares the mean temperature over the period of a fuel bill with the mean over previous years.

People receive a percentage contribution towards their fuel bill but they have to claim. The benefit is not paid automatically.

The criteria vary in different areas so that it has to be much colder in Aberdeen for claimants to qualify than in, say, Bourne-mouth.

Ms Harriet Harman, Labour's social services spokeswoman, called on the department yesterday for a widespread publicity campaign to ensure that people, especially the elderly, realized they were entitled to help.

The department said it would be putting up posters in post offices and the local benefit offices affected.

Life in shivering Poland: Part 2



Lengthy wait: Shoppers line up around the block as they wait to be served at a government butcher's shop in Warsaw.

Veal hunt points to poverty

This is the second of two articles from Roger Boyes in Warsaw on the economic hardships of daily life.

Meat is a problem in Poland and the search for it can be as complex and as clandestine as an espionage mission: furtive contacts are made between the wooden-stalled market stalls, code words are exchanged and a short trek through the freezing streets into the criminal underworld eventually leads the carnivorous customer towards the elusive red curtain or park chop.

Ordinary Polish adults are rationed to 2.5 kilos (5.5 lb) of meat a month and at least a quarter of that has to be poor quality stewing meat. Manual workers and children are given a slightly higher allocation, but the gap between what people want and what they can have is large, growing larger. However, strenuously the Government tries to persuade the private farmer to sell his meat to the state - and thus make it available in shops - it will never keep pace with people's expectations.

This illustrates the central dilemma in day-to-day survival here. Poles, a large majority of whom were born after the desperate shortages of the war and the 1950s, have come to expect the authorities to provide at least a simulacrum of Western standards. Up to a million Poles a year travelled to the West during the 1970s and this has shaped their ideas of how society can be run.

So expectations are rising constantly; but the Government, in the grips of an economic crisis that has lasted over five years, is in no position to satisfy them. The resulting cracks are filled by the legal and the semi-legal, the black, the grey and the brown markets, the only growth sector.

According to official statistics, some 40 per cent of all meat in Poland is marketed illicitly. (By law all meat must be sold to the state and through the state - private sales are banned.) The illegal route is proving to be the main way of securing the meat needs of the family.

The high-risk method of buying "black" meat is to visit established vegetable or covered markets. There, between the cabbage and the potatoes, women in head scarves can be seen, apparently selling nothing at all, simply standing as if tuned in to an inaudible national anthem. Eye contact is made and one hissed sentence sets out the terms: veal, 700 zlotys.

One nods and pretends to study the potatoes. The woman leaves and, at a safe distance, the customer follows. A car boot is opened, a bag of meat is handed over, the money tucked into what one can only assume is a brasserie, and the woman announces: "The market's full of agents at this time of year," presumably to justify the price.

Across the Vistula, in the down-at-heel Warsaw district of Praga, where criminal subcultures breed under laboratory conditions, one can buy pork, some of it fresh. The long deep courtyards around the Bastion Rozkijska serve up illegal veal at night and illegal meat during the day.

Probably the safest way of buying meat - from the point of view of physical hygiene and the chance of detection - is to make a regular arrangement with the ladies who commute twice weekly from the countryside as ex-wives of the farmers. Known only as Paul (Mrs) Bronislawna or Paul (Mrs) Jadzia - as opaque a cover name as one could hope for - these intermediaries between town and country strike no deals with the residents of housing, estates or the junior

employees of ministries and make big deliveries. They can be seen on the suburban commuter trains, racksacks and shopping bags hiding perhaps 40 kilos of meat, quietly dripping animal blood on the floor.

The price of such smuggled meat is often four or five times the official price in the shops, underlining the most disturbing trend of recent years - the gulf between those who, with the help of dollars or large amounts of Polish currency, can come close to preserving their living standards and those with no influence and a fixed income.

A working definition of poverty is those people whose incomes amount to less than two thirds of the average wage. In 1982 that poverty belt in Poland - that is, those earning less than 5,000 zlotys a month - included three million members of working families and 1.2 million members of pensioners' families. In 1983, with the poverty barrier having gone up to 6,000 zlotys a month, some 6 million Poles could be defined as poor.

Apart from the obvious categories - pensioners, students - the new Polish poor also include university lecturers, researchers, employees in the health service. With little chance of enriching their income by moonlighting, with little or no access to hard currency, these and many others are doomed to survival at a very basic level.

The wife of a prominent sociologist recently, delicately and only half in jest, approached a guest after dinner. "Could you make sure," she said to the Western woman, "that you give Chris something to eat before he comes to dinner next time?" Almost single handed he had polished off the family's meat ration for a fortnight.

Concluded

Blacklisted veteran set to follow five generals in Brazil

From Patrick Knight, São Paulo

Brazil chooses its first civilian President for 20 years today when the 686-strong electoral college makes its choice between two men. Soundings show that 74-year-old Tancredino Neves, candidate of the Democratic Alliance coalition, will have a majority of 270 votes over his opponent, 53-year-old Paulo Maluf, a former Governor of São Paulo State.

The college is composed of all members of both Houses of Congress, most elected in 1982, and three representatives from each of Brazil's 23 state assemblies.

The election comes after a very eventful year in Brazilian politics. Few predicted that an elderly opposition politician on the secret service blacklist would be the man to follow five generals as President of Brazil.

The situation has come about for two basic reasons. At the beginning of last year there was a building-up of immense popular pressure for real political change, characterized by mass campaigns for the next president to be chosen by direct suffrage. Huge rallies in most of Brazil's cities, culminating in two attracting more than a million in Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo, demonstrated that much more change than the government had planned was essential if a political breakdown was to be avoided.

The danger was real. There had been waves of serious violence, including sackings of supermarkets, in 1982.

Although the Government just managed to thwart attempts by Congress to permit direct elections for the President, it had lost the initiative and could no longer designate its successor.

The other factor has been the stubborn candidacy of the Social Democratic Party (PDS) candidate, Paulo Maluf. Senator Maluf has been a cuckoo in the PDS nest since he managed to win the indirect election for the governorship of São Paulo state in 1979. When he defeated the officially sponsored candidate he demonstrated that a sufficiently determined man could take advantage of the machine built up during 20 years of arbitrary and centralised military rule. If he could capture

certain key positions, he could gain power, in defiance of the majority will. Senator Maluf determined to repeat his state victory on a national scale, last year he went on to win the nomination of the then deeply split PDS.

But this turned out to be a pyrrhic victory. Earlier in the year, dozens of PDS deputies, concerned with their poor showing in the 1982 general elections and fearing for their fate in the 1985 polls, had joined the campaign in favour of direct elections. They broke away from the mainstream PDS, first to form the Liberal Front, and later to join the main opposition party, the Brazilian Democratic Movement (PMDB), in the Democratic Alliance.

The fact that Senator Tancredino Neves is the Alliance candidate, rather than the veteran PMDB president, Ulysses Guimarães, reflects the Alliance's need to appeal across as wide a spectrum as possible, with the main, rather negative aim, of preventing Senator Maluf gaining power.



Senator Tancredino Neves: Wide appeal with a negative aim.

So Brazil will now emerge from 20 years of military rule with a civilian president committed to taking the country back to full democracy. Senator Tancredino Neves has promised a new liberal constitution, direct elections for the next president, decentralization and the ending of rule by decree. However, such is the disparity within the broad coalition which will vote for Tancredino tomorrow, that the Alliance cannot be expected to hold together for long.

Eanes seeks advice in Lisbon political crisis

From Martha de la Cal, Lisbon

President Eanes of Portugal has convened the Council of State to advise him on the political crisis precipitated by his speech on New Year's Day. The council is expected to meet this week.

The speech was highly critical of Dr Mário Soares, Government and the country's political parties. The President said nothing had been done in the past year to help Portugal to overcome its economic crisis, and he pointed to "an inability to mobilize the human and natural resources of the country".

He criticized the parties for "monopolizing power" and said "changes must be made in political practice".

In anger, the coalition Government of Socialists and Social Democrats challenged the President to dismiss it. Under the constitution "the President may dismiss the Government only when it becomes necessary to secure the country's democratic institutions and after the Council of State has been consulted".

The presidential communiqué announcing the convocation of the council rejected the suggestion that either the Government's dismissal or the dissolution of Parliament was being considered at this stage.

Some political observers believe, however, that President

Eanes will indeed dismiss the Government; dissolve Parliament and call new elections sometime before July, and after the 1985 budget has been passed by Parliament and negotiations with the International Monetary Fund loans are completed. They believe that the President would then resign and call an early presidential election, as well, in the hope that a new party being formed with big tacit backing would win both elections and give the country a president and a government with the same political bent.

President Eanes - elected as an independent - and Dr Soares have been continually at odds during the President's two terms in office.

Dr Soares would be a candidate in the presidential election. It is said he would like to step down as Prime Minister to dissociate himself from the economic and political crisis that has eroded his popularity.

Recent polls show that the new party backed by President Eanes has the support of 49 per cent of the voters even as it is being formed.

COARS BOMBED: Home-made bombs destroyed two company cars in Lisbon suburbs yesterday, and police found and dismantled two others under cars in Setúbal (AP reports). No injuries were reported.

Ghost village of 25 acres up for sale

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

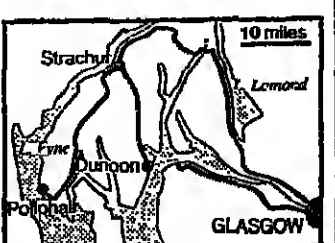
A village, built nine years ago to house 500 oil rig construction workers on the shores of Loch Fyne in Argyll but never occupied, is being offered for sale.

Pollphail, now a ghost village covering about 25 acres of beautiful countryside 90 miles west of Glasgow, has suffered the effects of weather and vandalism since its construction as a support village for workers at the Portavadie oil production platform site.

As a result of spectacular and costly miscalculations, no orders came for rigs and none was constructed.

The dry dock at Portavadie, completed in 1976, was thought to be the largest man-made hole in the world, and the cost of the dock and construction site was more than £11 million. But the dock remained unused and work to restore the area at a cost of nearly £1 million took place in 1983. That involved flooding the 100-ft-deep dock, and covering the whole area with grass.

Pollphail is due to be reinstated to its former looks by next January, but the planning authority, Argyll and Bute District Council, has indicated that it would be prepared to consider alternative uses for the property, either residential, educational, or institutional, rather than to demolish the whole site.



The original owner sold the village some years ago, and the present owner, a company named Barjac, has put it on the market. It found no takers at an asking price of £750,000. Bellingham, the agents, are now simply inviting offers, giving no guide price.

The village has a central area with sixteen dining rooms, conference rooms and shops, in theory at least, surrounded by living quarters; two-storey blocks built of concrete and timber cladding.

Many of the buildings are in a poor state, and the price is likely to depend on the estimate of the cost of repair and renovation. The accommodation was arranged in small self-contained flats, with internal partitions which can be moved to alter the size of the rooms.

At one time during its empty existence the village was suggested as a site for a fish farm. The local authority hopes that a use may yet be found for this wasteland among the steep hills of the Firth of Clyde.

Rapist given six life sentences

Alan Pearey was given six life sentences at the Central Criminal Court yesterday for a series of rape and sexual attacks committed during a 16-month period in South London. Pearey, aged 35, of Ferrier Estate, Kidbrook, south London, admitted raping six victims and indecently assaulting a girl, aged 14 and three other indecent assaults between April, 1983, and July last year.

Mr Graham Boal, for the prosecution, said they were attacked either in train carriages, on train journeys to and from Charing Cross, or as they walked in lonely areas. Pearey, an unemployed man, pleaded guilty to all the charges. He also received two years for each of the indecent assaults, to run concurrently with the life sentences.

Before he was jailed the court was told that Pearey was so remorseful for what he had done that he wanted to give one of his kidneys to enable someone who was gravely ill to lead a normal life.

Driving ban on Ian St John

The television presenter and former footballer, Ian St John, aged 46, was fined £300 and banned from driving for 12 months by Edinburgh Sheriff Court yesterday. At an earlier hearing, Sheriff Hazel Aronson had found St John, of Childwall Abbey Road, Liverpool, guilty of driving in Market Street, Edinburgh, with nearly twice the legal limit of alcohol.

Sentence had been deferred to allow St John to produce his driving licence, which showed he had one previous conviction for speeding.

Police to see MP

Mr Tam Dalyell, Labour MP for Linlithgow, is to be interviewed by West Mercia police at the House of Commons today over his allegations that British intelligence was involved in the death last March of Miss Hilda Murrell, aged 78, of Shrewsbury.

Charity rock

The rock group Police has given £250 to Sheffield's Escalated young people's brass band to help the musicians to replace old instruments. The money will come from a charity set up by the group to help young musicians.

Greenham raid

Three women protesters against nuclear weapons were found inside RAF Greenham Common and ejected early yesterday, a few days after the Government announced plans for a stronger fence.

Senator's southern Africa tour ends



Homeward bound: Mr Kennedy and son Edward at Heathrow on the way home after their South African trip.

Kennedy adamant his visit 'great success'

By Our Foreign Staff

Senator Edward Kennedy was adamant yesterday that his eight-day tour of South Africa had been "a great success", despite the mountain of criticism it had attracted. He was speaking in London en route to Boston.

As he left Heathrow airport after a three-hour stop on his way home, he said: "I thought the visit was a great success. First of all I gained an even better insight into the appalling conditions of apartheid."

"Secondly, I think some of the South Africans have a recognition that a great majority of Americans do not support 'constructive engagement' and are very vitally opposed to apartheid. I think there are many people in South Africa that didn't want to believe it. But that happens to be true. I would say the visit was very useful."

Senator Kennedy said that on his return he would discuss ways of taking stronger measures against South Africa. "I look forward to working with my colleagues when I return to the US and effect stronger steps

which I will spell out in detail when I get back."

Earlier, in Lusaka, Mr Kennedy met the African National Congress leader, Mr Oliver Tambo, who explained why the group had renounced non-violence to sabotage and guerrilla warfare. After the ANC was outlawed by Pretoria in the 1960s, "we decided then that non-violence had run its course".

The senator told Mr Tambo he deplored violence, but understood that when people were denied the right to effect peaceful change they often turned to violent means.

In Maputo yesterday, an American Congressional leader said US policy on South Africa gave Pretoria a "free hand" to hully its neighbours and oppress the chairman of the House of Representatives sub-committee on Africa, Mr Howard Wolpe (Democrat, Michigan), was ending a three-day visit during which he saw drought-relief efforts and had discussions with government leaders on the civil war in Mozambique.

Why Azapo was given free rein

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

Of the black consciousness groups allowed to operate with any measure of freedom in South Africa, the Azanian Peoples Organisation (Azapo), which succeeded in sending Senator Edward Kennedy scuttling from the country on Sunday, is probably the least meaningful.

It exists because the South African Government itself, in 1977, following the Soweto riots and the death in detention of the young Steve Biko - which made him an instant martyr of the black consciousness movement - imposed a ban on more than a dozen movements, numerous individuals and even a black newspaper which it considered were dangerous proponents of what in the vernacular of opposition is termed "the struggle".

Azapo, a distinctly post-Biko creation, has adopted a policy of outspoken opposition to capitalism and is frequently described in South Africa as being on the left of the black consciousness movement.

Despite this rhetoric Azapo is far from being a socialist movement in the European sense - if it were it would have been hurried and possibly outlawed by the South African authorities long ago just as the African National Congress has been.

It purports to be distinctly anti-Africanist - favouring black exclusivity. However, the majority of its hierarchy eschews overt violence as a means of overthrowing the Government. Throughout the Kennedy visit it was clear that the authorities were prepared to allow Azapo centre stage to disrupt the senator's programme to the best of its ability.

The Co-operative Bank announces a change in base rate

from 9.50% to 12.00% p.a. with effect from Tuesday 15th January 1985

Deposit rates will become 7 days notice 8.75% p.a. 1 months notice 9.50% p.a.

Co-operative Bank
Cheque & Save

The notional interest rate on Cheque & Save is now 12.00% p.a. (on amounts beyond £1,000).

THE CO-OPERATIVE BANK
Co-operative Bank plc, P.O. Box 10, 1 Raffles Street, Manchester M2 1EE

Midland Bank Interest Rates

Effective from 14th January 1985.

Base Rate
Increases by 1½% to 12% per annum.

Deposit Accounts
Interest paid on 7 day deposit accounts increases by 1½% to 8½% p.a.



Midland Bank
Midland Bank plc, 27 Poultry, London EC2P 2BX

The East-West arms dialogue

Reagan puts pressure on Belgium to maintain cruise missile timetable

From Christopher Thomas Washington

President Reagan, fearing a break in Nato solidarity at a critical time in superpower relations, strongly urged Mr Wilfried Martens, the Belgian Prime Minister, in talks at the White House yesterday, to go ahead with the scheduled deployment of American cruise missiles in March.

The Administration fears that a delay in deployment could have a chain reaction in Europe, especially in the Netherlands, which has postponed a decision on deployment until November. The Dutch Government said it would move ahead on missile placements only if the Soviet Union further increased the number of its SS20 missiles. The US claims Russia has already done so.

Mr Martens is under heavy domestic pressure to postpone deployment pending the outcome of new superpower arms talks, which are expected to begin in about March. His own party, the Flemish Socialist Christians, stated in non-binding votes last November and again last week that deployment should be delayed.

The Administration believes that any crack now in Nato solidarity would strengthen the Soviet Union's bargaining position in the new arms talks. It is also concerned that Mr Martens's primary aim is to drive a wedge between America and its Western European allies.

That consideration Washington suspects, was an important

Warsaw Pact summit off

Moscow (Reuters) - A Warsaw Pact summit meeting scheduled for this week has been postponed indefinitely, according to an official announcement due to be published in a Soviet newspaper today. A spokesman for the daily Sovetskaya Rossiya read the text of the brief announcement.

force behind Moscow's obvious enthusiasm in Geneva last week for the talks. Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, said on Sunday that the talks might collapse if deployment of missiles in Europe continues - a warning clearly designed to increase tensions in the West.

President Reagan said in an interview with a Belgian newspaper published over the weekend that "alliance solidarity in proceeding with deployment is a major reason why the Soviets decided to return to Geneva".

Washington believes the accidental fire last week involving the Rocket motor of an unarmed US Pershing missile in West Germany could hardly have come at a worse time, since it provided a focus for a new wave of protests against deployment.

The President pointed out to Mr Martens that US medium-range missiles were already in place in Britain, West Germany and Italy and that the governments there had weathered the

protests. But a senior Administration official conceded that deployment would be "a dicey affair" for Mr Martens's centre-right coalition.

Mr Martens also met Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, and Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, who made it clear that the Administration is concerned about the export from Belgium of high technology items to the Soviet Union.

LONDON: The Foreign Office re-affirmed its view yesterday that Nato should proceed with its programme for deploying cruise and Pershing missiles, despite Mr Gromyko's warning (Rodney Cowton writes).

The Foreign Office said that if Nato did not proceed with the programme it would amount to a unilateral concession outside the negotiating process.

PARIS: France yesterday reaffirmed its total rejection of the inclusion of its nuclear force in any negotiation in which it was not involved (Diana Geddes writes).

There can be no question of taking into account the French nuclear force in negotiations carried out by three parties, the French Foreign Ministry said.

BONN: West Germany has welcomed Mr Gromyko's weekend statements on arms control talks with the US but said any attempts to sway public opinion before negotiations began would call into question the good faith of the negotiators (Reuter reports).



Braving the cold: Swimmers making for the bank after a swift lap in an open-air pool in Moscow this week.

Cold causes energy crisis in Romania

By Our Foreign Staff

As most of Europe continued to suffer in the bitter winter weather, Romania yesterday announced a drastic curtailment of industrial production and more stringent energy-saving measures in an effort to prevent a collapse of the national power grid.

The announcement came on the fifth day of an unprecedented nationwide ban on private car driving, also caused by the harsh winter in years. The measures were adopted on Sunday at an emergency party meeting chaired by President Ceausescu. They

came after reports that the power grid was on the verge of breakdown several times this month, because of over-consumption and breakdowns at coal-fired power stations.

Industry was ordered to reduce the number of shifts from three to two or even one, according to a communiqué yesterday in the *Romania Libera* newspaper. Some plants were told to work a three-day to five-day week to save energy and heating.

Public and private lighting are being cut by half. The Weather Bureau reported -37C on Sunday night at

Miercurea Ciuc, central Transylvania, almost approaching the record -38.4C measured in 1942.

Elsewhere, the cold forced the shutdown of a nuclear power station at Caorso, northern Italy, and blacked out parts of Genoa for several hours.

In France, factories laid off workers due to a shortage of spare parts and market gardeners estimated damage to crops at tens of millions of pounds.

Officials said 107 people had died as a result of the cold that has gripped the country over the past week.

One of the coldest spots on Sunday night was the Ardennes region of Belgium, where temperatures plunged to -28C.

In Denmark, the authorities threatened to fine people walking on the frozen Sound after 200 Danes tried to walk the two miles to Sweden across the frozen sea on Sunday. Three fell through thin ice in the middle and were rescued by police.

In the Netherlands, cold and fog delayed the transport of thousands of US troops for a Nato exercise, but officials said the manoeuvres would go ahead as planned.

The Popieluszko murder trial

Secret policemen call each other liars

From Roger Boyes Warsaw

Their nerves frayed by days of questioning, two of the Polish secret policemen accused of killing Father Jerzy Popieluszko yesterday started to denounce each other as "liars", fighting in the words of one courtroom observer, like "alleycats in a dingy cul-de-sac".

It was the final day of testimony for the four defendants - ex-Colonel Adam Pietruszka, ex-Captain Grzegorz Piotrowski, ex-Lieutenant Leszek Pekala and Waldemar Chmielewski, all now retired from the rank of private. It began in a heated, almost chaotic, cross-examination of Pietruszka.

Under questioning from Judge Jerzy Janowski, Pietruszka, who is accused of complicity in the killing of the pro-solidarity priest, began to falter. He could not give a satisfactory explanation as to

why he had issued a special pass to the three kidnappers on the day of the attack on Father Popieluszko. The date on the pass must have been forged, he said. Nor could he explain why he had failed to report certain key facts about the kidnapping.

The former colonel's answers to the lawyers of Father Popieluszka's family were of "hand, sometimes contemptuous". "Any reasonably intelligent man... began the defence counsel of the Popieluszko family, Mr Edward Wende. Pietruszka interrupted: "I won't answer this question because I don't want to disappoint the plenipotentiary with my level of intelligence."

The thrust of the former colonel's testimony is that he did not inspire any attempt to cover up the kidnapping and the murder, and that he never issued orders that physical violence should be used against the priest. This directly contra-

dicts the testimony of his immediate subordinate, Piotrowski, who claims the former colonel spoke of hitting the priest "to the verge of a heart attack".

Piotrowski, watching the former colonel shift more and more blame on to his shoulders, suddenly rose yesterday and bitterly criticized his former superior officer. "On all the fundamental issues, Pietruszka is lying. When I was describing the basic character traits of my former boss, I forgot to mention one - his cunning."

"Now I don't have the courage to look my subordinate in the eye because I was naive enough to believe my superior officer and this alone is why I am in the dock."

The packed Torun courtroom watched as Piotrowski, who has admitted beating but not killing the priest, clutched the rail of the dock and let his voice rise. "I am fully aware of what I have done and I haven't tried

to make excuses... for me it's a question of honour."

Pietruszka's defence is, above all, a political one. While Piotrowski claims that he did not grasp the political implications of killing Father Popieluszko, his former superior officer said yesterday that it was always clear to him that such a step would be a blow to the policies of the Government.

"As a result of this deed the underground gained a pretext for slanderous statements that Interior Ministry employees are murderers."

Today the court will hear witnesses, the crucial one being the driver of Father Popieluszko, Mr Waldemar Chmielewski, whose escape made it possible to bring charges.

The defence lawyers of the four secret police agents are planning an assault on the testimony of the driver, hoping that this will create loopholes for their clients, who all face possible death sentences.

How Argentines have strengthened their forces		
Interceptors/Strike	PRE-WAR	CURRENT
Skylark A-4P	88	54
Neesh/Dagger	25	32
Mirage III series	21	37
Mirage 5	10	9
Attack		
Skylark A-4Q	11	24
Super Etendard	4	14
Total for both services	130	160
Naval Air Force		
Exocet missiles	5	28
Modern submarines (Post 1975)	2	4 (and 4 under construction)
Modern escorts (Post 1975)	5	10 (and 5 under construction)

THE ARSENAL: In its efforts to rebuild its military forces after the Falklands conflict, Argentina has bought equipment from nations which include some of Britain's Nato allies, and some of it even includes British components (Rodney Cowton writes).

A survey of Argentina's re-equipment programme, published yesterday by the Brad-

ford School of Peace Studies, relies heavily for its information on other published sources, but it is probably the most up-to-date assessment of Argentina's new equipment includes submarines and frigates built in West Germany, which were ordered before the conflict, and French-built Exocet and Israeli Gabriel anti-ship missiles.

Objections hold up scuttled tanker hearing

From Mario Modiano Piraeus

The Piraeus appeal court trying 13 Greeks for the alleged scuttling of the Liberian tanker Salem in 1980, after having allegedly embezzled its oil cargo and sold it to South Africa, has been delayed by several objections from lawyers trying to gain a postponement.

Defence lawyers claim that Demetrios Georgioulis, Master of the Salem and one of the missing defendants, as well as his first engineer, Antonios Kalamitropoulos, who is detained, have been tried in Monrovia, and acquitted

Marcos misses opening of assembly

Manila (AP) - President

Marcos failed to appear at the reopening of the Philippines National Assembly yesterday, prompting renewed speculation that he is recovering from a serious illness.

However, assemblymen were treated to copies of a presidential speech in which President Marcos said the communist rebel threat has reached a "new dimension".

"The growing visibility of insurgents and the frequency of encounters plainly suggests a new dimension to the problem we must face," Mr Marcos said.

Gunmen kill two French observers

Beirut (Reuters) - Gunmen shot dead two French ceasefire observers yesterday in the latest attack on French citizens and institutions in Beirut.

Security sources said Shia militants, ignoring an official ban, set up road blocks in west Beirut after the French soldiers' Jeep was ambushed by a carload of gunmen, who opened fire with machine guns.

Four French observers have now been killed since the unit of 80 men was deployed in Lebanon last March to monitor the ceasefire line between west and east Beirut and in the hills above the capital.

The deputy commander, Lieutenant-Colonel Claude Cueto, was shot dead last week by gunmen near the "green line".

An observer was shot dead by a sniper last June.

A Lebanese Government security committee, composed of all the main militias and charged with overseeing the security plan, deplored yesterday's shooting as criminal and cowardly.

Security forces in southern Lebanon, meanwhile, said checkpoints were set up at the weekend to block a Lebanese plan to establish Army control in the Kharroub hills.

In Tel Aviv, the Israeli Army said it had made no effort to block the Lebanese deployment.

Beirut radio reported that more than 40 people were killed or injured, including some Israeli soldiers, when two bombs went off near an Israeli patrol about six miles from Tyre.

'Time' prints correction to Sharon story

New York (Reuters) - Time magazine printed a correction yesterday to part of its story which led to a \$50 million libel suit by the former Israeli defence minister Mr Ariel Sharon.

The correction, in copies of the magazine which went on sale yesterday, came as the jury prepared to begin deliberating on a verdict in the two-month-long case.

Mr Sharon, now Israel's minister of Industry and Commerce, has from the start demanded a full retraction and apology for the story, which he said portrayed him as instigator of a bloody 1982 massacre of Palestinians at the Sabra and Chatila refugee camps in Beirut.

A Time spokesman, Mr Michael Loftman, said the correction had nothing to do with any moves to reach a last-minute settlement. He said Time had long promised to issue such a correction if warranted.

In its February, 1983, cover story, Time said an official

Delors spells out his 'new Europe' dream

From Ian Murray Strasbourg

Europe must return to the attack, M Jacques Delors, President of the new European Commission, told the European Parliament in Strasbourg yesterday, spelling out his plans and dreams for the next four years.

To build what he called a "single Europe" he proposed to tear down all frontiers within the Community by 1992. More urgently, he said, the terrible rise in unemployment had to be reversed within two years. At the same time Europe had to reaffirm its identity and its cultural diversity.

His Commission, he said, would take decisive steps in three areas: it would work for a large internal market; for strengthening the European Monetary System, and for the convergence of economies to lead to higher growth and more jobs. More complete details would be given to the Parliament in March.

There was notice that M Delors will use every possible means to force decisions through the Council to open the internal market - the area of responsibility of Britain's senior Commissioner, Lord Cockfield.

Achievement in this area had been held up by the rule requiring unanimity. M Delors admitted, but now he would set a programme, a timetable and a method to see there was no shirking of responsibilities.

Work had to start without delay, and there could be no excuses. "European affairs often give the impression of being a contest between member states,



M Delors: Vision of new European unity.

instead of presenting the picture of a united team, a party of climbers scaling greater heights," he said.

His aim was to make countries, companies and workers aware of the vital interest of the European dimension, so that they could become the instruments of change.

He promised to strengthen the ECU (European Currency Unit) by extending its use, and suggested creating an "official ECU" to share global monetary management with the United States.

A strengthened EMS backed by a more widely-used ECU, he said, could reopen the path to monetary union, growth and job creation. "What a triumph if the Community could demonstrate that monetary stringency and the fight against unemployment go hand-in-hand."

Clinic's top doctor accused of 21 deaths

Lugano (Reuters) - The chief doctor of a private Swiss clinic went on trial yesterday charged with manslaughter over the deaths of 21 patients in 1981 and 1982.

The charges read out in court here accused Mr Antonio de Marchi, head physician of the Montebello clinic in Castagnola, and three of his employees of giving wrong diagnoses, mistaken treatments, incorrect drugs and drugs in too high a dosage.

The public prosecutor alleged that Mr de Marchi also sent patients used in their beds and locked in their rooms. He also was accused of failing to maintain proper standards of hygiene.

\$25m emergency aid by FAO

Rome (AP) - The UN Food and Agriculture Organization is extending \$25 million (\$22m) in emergency food aid to Ethiopia and five other countries.

Ethiopia, Sudan, Niger and Uganda will get \$16.6 million and Sudan, an additional \$3 million in food aid. Food worth \$4,750,000 will go to Afghan refugees in Pakistan, and \$900,000 in food aid goes to Colombian flood victims.

Terrorist hunt

Wiesbaden (AP) - The federal criminal office appealed for public help in finding four West Germans believed involved in a recent wave of attacks by the left-wing Red Army Faction. Warrants were issued for the arrests of Andrea Klump, Thomas Simon, Barbara Meyer, and her husband, Horst Meyer.

Lawyer quits

New York (AP) - The lawyer representing Mr Bernhard Goetz, accused of shooting four youths on the New York underground, said he was quitting the case because of a "basic irreconcilable disagreement" over how the defence should be conducted. He would not elaborate.

Killer bush fires

Melbourne (Reuters) - Four big bush fires swept Australia's Victoria state yesterday, killing a man and two of his grandchildren near Kilmore, 31 miles north-west of Melbourne, emergency services said. Hundreds of homes were destroyed and three firemen seriously injured.

Amal accused

Rome (AP) - Libya blamed Lebanon's Amal Shia Muslim group and PLO leader Mr Yasser Arafat backed by "American imperialism" for the assassination here on Sunday of the Libyan diplomat, Mr Farag Omar Mkyoun.

Moses arrested

Hollywood (Reuters) - Olympic champion hurdler Edwin Moses, aged 29, was arrested on Hollywood's Sunset Boulevard for soliciting a woman police officer masquerading as a prostitute, police said.

Correction

Elections to Pakistan's National Assembly will be held on February 25, not February 5 as printed yesterday.

Tamils destroy bridges in festival offensive

From Our Correspondent, Colombo

Tamil separatist rebels in northern Sri Lanka yesterday marked the Tamil Harvest Festival with explosions that damaged five bridges and cut off Jaffna from Point Pedro, northernmost town in the Jaffna peninsula. The armed services were said to be restoring order.

Government radio said the "Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam", which claimed responsibility for the attacks, had said the purpose was to restrict military movements, but they had also affected the civilian population and food supply to towns in the north.

Security forces were on a 24-hour alert yesterday after intelligence reports that some guerrilla groups may try to make a declaration of independence to coincide with the festival.

The "Liberation Tigers" are the biggest of the rebel groups in the north.

NEW YORK: The President of Sri Lanka, Mr Junius Jayewardene, conceded in an interview published this week that the armed forces have committed "excesses" in dealing with the Tamil insurgency (AP reports).

"There have been excesses by the armed forces. We don't deny them," he says in an interview in this week's *Newsweek* magazine. "These things happened in Vietnam, in London every day. They happen in India every day."

President Jayewardene also says he will hold no more talks with the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF) "unless they give up their call for a separate Tamil state."

The Royal Bank of Scotland Base Rate

The Royal Bank of Scotland plc announces that with effect from close of business on 14th January 1985 its Base Rate for lending is being increased from 10½ per cent per annum to 12 per cent per annum.

Objections hold up scuttled tanker hearing

From Mario Modiano Piraeus

The Piraeus appeal court trying 13 Greeks for the alleged scuttling of the Liberian tanker Salem in 1980, after having allegedly embezzled its oil cargo and sold it to South Africa, has been delayed by several objections from lawyers trying to gain a postponement.

Defence lawyers claim that Demetrios Georgioulis, Master of the Salem and one of the missing defendants, as well as his first engineer, Antonios Kalamitropoulos, who is detained, have been tried in Monrovia, and acquitted

Marcos misses opening of assembly

Manila (AP) - President

Marcos failed to appear at the reopening of the Philippines National Assembly yesterday, prompting renewed speculation that he is recovering from a serious illness.

However, assemblymen were treated to copies of a presidential speech in which President Marcos said the communist rebel threat has reached a "new dimension".

"The growing visibility of insurgents and the frequency of encounters plainly suggests a new dimension to the problem we must face," Mr Marcos said.

Low-gear chess start

Moscow (Reuters) - Anatoly

Karpov and Gary Kasparov got off to a slow start in game 41 of their world chess title match after a four-day break. The two Soviet grandmasters took two hours over their first 12 moves.

Karpov, the champion, looking increasingly tired by the four-month struggle, had called a time-out on Friday. He leads 5-1 and needs only one more win but since November has been unable to break down Kasparov's defence.

COMFORTABLY CUT UP TO 25% OFF YOUR GAS AND OIL HEATING BILLS

This brilliant British instrument brings

Microprocessor Precision

Control to

home heating

AT THE TOUCH

OF A BUTTON!

Exact control

of water and

room temperature

to a fraction of a

degree.

Water and room

temperature set

independently.

Four Temperature

Control periods every

day. Water and room

heating to suit the

time of day or night -

for instance, comfort-

ably cool while you

sleep and warm and

welcoming when you

get up.

Instantly over-rides

all settings to provide

Boost Heat when you

want it.

GUARANTEED

FOR TWO YEARS

FREEPOST

NO STAMP REQUIRED

INSTANT ACTION

ON 01-679 7111-9

FIND OUT ABOUT THE CONTROLLER

Telephone our HOTLINE on 01-679 7111-9

or return the coupon today for further details.

Cory Heating Services, FREEPOST,

Riverside, Charlton, London SE7 7SU

Name

Address

Tel. No.

Cory Heating

Services

France sticks to islands package

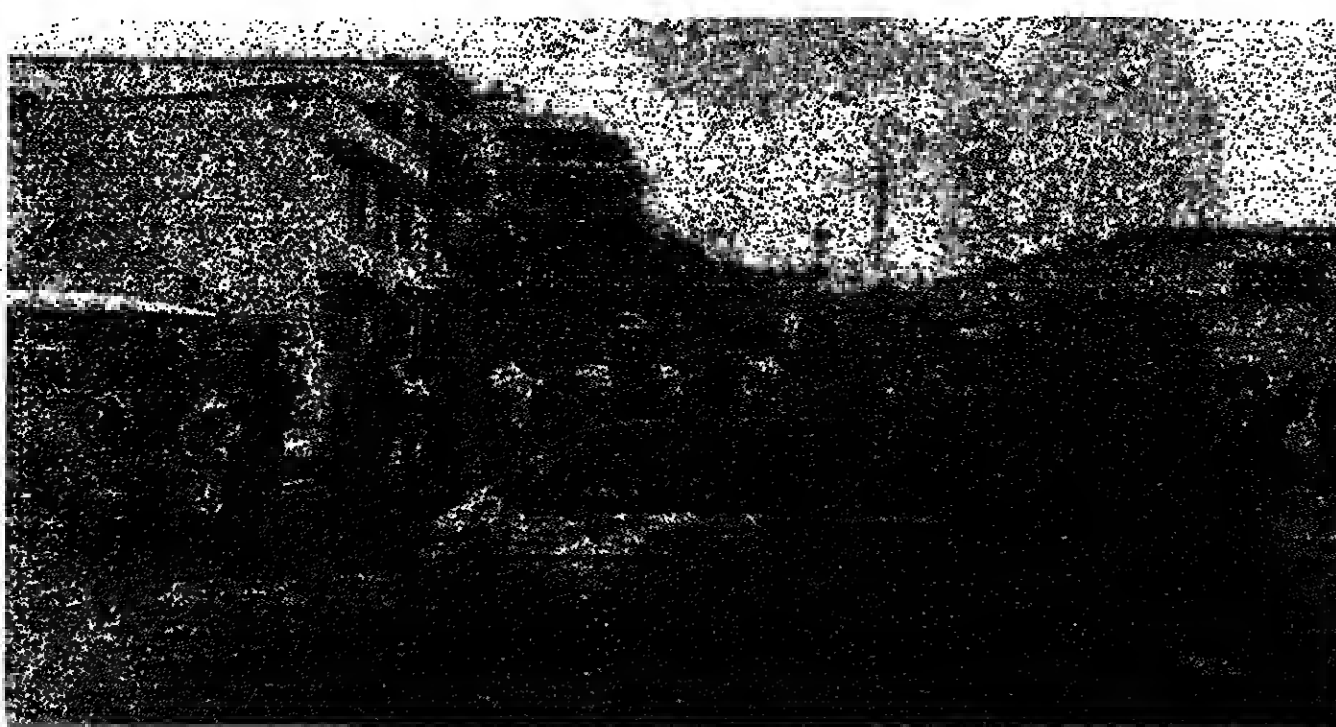
From Diana Geddes Paris

President Mitterrand is expected to explain the Government's attitude towards the latest explosive developments in New Caledonia when he appears on television tomorrow night for a pre-arranged hour-long interview.

Despite gloomy pronouncements from among opposition politicians in France that the Pisanis proposals for the future of the islands are now dead, the Government evidently still hopes that the referendum on the Pisanis "package deal" of independence for the islands, linked to a contract of continued close association with France, will be able to go ahead.

Although M Ywéné Ywéné, the official spokesman for the FLNKS, the Kanak separatist movement, has said that there is now no question of the separatists taking part in the referendum unless the vote were limited to the Kanak people alone, M Jean-Marie Tjibaou, the FLNKS leader, insisted only on the separatists' demand for the pure and simple restitution of the Kanak people's sovereignty over their country.

That, in fact, marks no change from his position, and leaves open the question of the



Troubled island: The aftermath of weekend clashes in Noumea between police and demonstrators

FLNKS' eventual participation in the referendum which is due to be held in July.

The Government expects the separatists' attitude to become clearer over the next three days which have been declared a period of mourning for the two Kanak separatists, M Eloi Machoro and M Marcel Nomnaro, killed by police early on Saturday morning.

Both in France and in New Caledonia, considerable controversy continues to surround the circumstances of their death, particularly that of Mr Machoro, the Marxist leader of the

hardline faction of the FLNKS. There is a strong suspicion that he was in fact deliberately murdered by the police with the possible connivance of the French authorities.

Why did it take 39 hours for the police to publish the version of the events? It is asked. Why did they not say that the farm that was allegedly under siege by Mr Machoro and his men at the time of the police intervention, in fact belonged to a Kanak?

Why was Mr Machoro shot full in the chest by a bullet from one of the elite Sharpshooters

(the French equivalent of the SAS), when orders had been given simply to "neutralize" the separatists? Why was it claimed that Mr Machoro was firing at the police when he was hit, when eyewitnesses said that he was carrying his gun over his shoulder?

M André Lajoie, leader of the Communist Party in the French National Assembly, has called for an official inquiry.

A thousand mourners wept and chanted at a funeral ceremony here yesterday for the two black militant leaders (Reuter reports).

The bodies were laid to rest under a bower as the independence-seeking Melanesian Kanaks filed past.

Mr Nomnaro's body was lowered into the grave and Mr Machoro, the most militant of Kanak leaders, was being buried today after a further period of mourning.

M Pisanis ordered a state of emergency on Saturday after the killing of Mr Machoro, which he feared would set off widespread violence in the territory, where 19 people have died in unrest since mid-November.

West Germany's new miracle

Boom gives Kohl a boost

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Barely a day goes by without fresh evidence of the remarkable recovery of the West German economy. The economic heart of Europe is beating with such vigour that Bonn appears almost taken aback by the success of its policies, and the latest forecast is that the economy will grow by some 3 per cent this year.

This follows the recent publication of statistics showing the economy is growing at twice the rate it was in 1983, and that last year's inflation rate, at 2.4 per cent, was the lowest for 15 years.

The country's trade surplus in 1984 was expected to reach almost DM 55,000 million (21,400 million), a record easily surpassing the total of DM 51,300 million for the previous year.

Indeed, so good have recent economic indicators been that some commentators are already talking about a new economic miracle. And the Kohl Government's resounding success in this field is the main reason for its continuing popularity, evidenced by the latest opinion poll, which gave the centre-right coalition a comfortable 53 per cent of the votes of those asked.

The strength of the economy, the Western world's third largest, is demonstrated by a battery of healthy figures, which in turn have induced a fresh optimism in German industry that is having visible political and social consequences. The new boom is being generated by a surge in exports, far outstripping the rise in imports. In real terms exports

grew by some 10 per cent over 1983, while imports were up by 6 per cent.

West German deliveries to the United States have gone up by nearly 50 per cent, while those to the European Community, which account for one half of West German trade, have also been rising fast. German industry's order books are now full and the boom shows no signs of slackening during the winter months.

The main reason for this is the strength of the dollar, making German exports more competitive, and equally important holding down the D-Mark against the currencies of West Germany's main EEC competitors.

But the new miracle is not simply dollar-induced. The very low inflation rate compares impressively with even the respectable small rises in some other EEC countries now. And industry is also becoming more efficient. Wage costs per unit of output fell by 1.1 per cent in 1984 and were down again last year. The shorter working hours agreed in several important industries, especially the giant metal-working industry, have not yet pushed costs up.

Company profits also went up again last year, and are expected to rise again in 1985 by some 20 per cent for the 100 main officially quoted companies.

The stock market has been doing well, with share prices rising to record levels and a large number of new companies being quoted for the first time.

In particular there has been a massive new investment in the very areas where Germany seemed to be in danger of lagging behind - in high technology and communications.

All this has shown itself in a number of ways. The Volkswagen car company, for example, which was recently struggling with - dangerously high losses, made a profit last year and has seen rising sales.

There are still problems and dangers. The main political problem is the stubbornly high rate of unemployment, which shows little sign of coming down quickly. Allied to this is the long-term steady change in union attitudes, symbolized by the lengthy engineering strike last year. Though wanted industrial harmony has been restored, the new and well educated generation of union leaders is not leading the same compliant workforce that created the first economic miracle.

Private consumption has continued to be subdued, and the plans for catalytic converters have confused the car market. High technology has fuelled the boom in southern Germany, but has led to a growing discrepancy with the old industrial north of the country.

Nevertheless the Government now feels the economy has been brought under control, is set for sustained expansion and will benefit especially from the massive income tax cuts, the first stage of which is planned next year.

Peace aim of China-US link stressed by general

From Mary Lee, Peking

The visiting chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, General John Vessey, said yesterday: "It is important for all to know that (Sino-US) military ties are designed to promote peace and understanding and threaten no third party."

He made the remark - which observers say was directed at the Soviet Union - during a long toast at a banquet at the end of his stay in Peking. Present were Yang Dezhi, Chief of General Staff of the People's Liberation Army and senior military leaders.

General Vessey said he agreed with Yang that the two sides should abide by the US-China joint communiqué. (These deal largely with the problem of Taiwan. China argues that under the communiqué, the latest of which was signed in 1982, the US is

PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE

Pakistan: Hasan Arif

By Caroline Moorehead

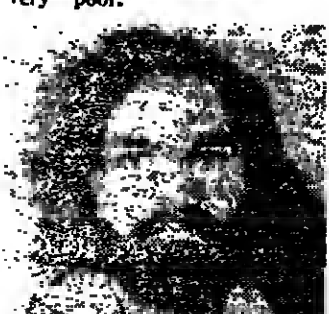
Sometime next week, if the law were to run its proper course, Dr Hasan Zafar Arif, lecturer in philosophy at the University of Karachi, and now in Karachi Central Jail, should go free.

However, neither he nor any of his colleagues and friends believe this could possibly happen. It is far more likely that his 90-day detention order will be renewed, or continued indefinitely.

Dr Arif was taken from his home by police on October 21. He is being held under Martial Law Regulation No 53 and the charges against him revolve around the suggestion that he indulged in "agitational activities," such as to "impair the normal functioning and efficiency of the university."

Dr Arif, who will be 40 next month, studied at Reising University in the late 1960s and after taking his PhD spent a year at Harvard.

Dr Arif's former wife and 11-year-old son live in Manchester. According to a letter they recently received, Dr Arif, though being badly treated, is being held among Category C prisoners, where conditions are very poor.



Dr Hasan Zafar Arif: Accused of "agitation".

Law Report January 15 1985 Family Division

Natural father given custody of ward and leave to take her abroad

In re a Baby

Before Mr Justice Lacey

[Judgment delivered January 14]

Care and control of a baby conceived by artificial insemination was granted to Mr and Mrs A, the natural father and his wife, and the court gave leave for the baby to be taken out of the jurisdiction to be brought up in another country, although the child remained a ward of court.

Mr Justice Lacey, in giving judgment in open court in the Family Division, restated the rule appearing to publicity and wards of court and said that it would be kind and compassionate of the media to leave the couple alone in bringing up their child in peace and quietness of mind.

Mr Michael Tillett for Mr and Mrs A; Mr Frank Moat for the London Borough of Barnet.

MR JUSTICE LACEY said that the baby's provenance was novel and had attracted a good deal of public interest. The publicity was before the birth and before the child was made a ward of court and was legitimate.

The father and his wife were both in their thirties and had been married for some years. The father was fertile but the wife had a congenital defect which prevented her from having a child.

Both wanted a child but in their home country adoption was slow and the child was usually aged about five years at adoption. The couple wanted a child from birth.

The 1983 Act gave the father an agency in America, he paid the agency money and the agency undertook to find a surrogate mother to bear his child in England.

1984, the father came to England, the sole purpose of providing seminal fluid for insemination of the surrogate mother. The semen was introduced into the mother by a qualified nurse. The father and the surrogate mother never met. Conception resulted from the insemination. It was agreed that at birth the baby would be handed over to the father and his wife.

Mr and Mrs A came to England in anticipation of the birth which occurred on January 4, 1985. On that day the London Borough of Barnet was granted a place of safety order (see section 28 of the Children and Young Persons Act 1969). The baby remained in hospital, cared for by the nurses.

On January 8 the father issued the writ of habeas corpus, that evening he heard Mr Tillett and Mr Moat. The father and his wife were present.

By that time the local authority had made a lot of inquiries but had still to complete those inquiries. The local authority completed the inquiries and the matter was restored to his Lordship on January 11.

The evidence established that Mr A was the natural father and that the

natural mother had voluntarily relinquished her parental rights and had left the baby in hospital some hours after birth and had not seen her since. The local authority supported the father's application that he and his wife be given the care and upbringing of the baby.

First and foremost, and at the heart of the prerogative jurisdiction was what was best for the baby. The methods used to produce a child as the baby had been and the commercial aspects raised delicate problems of ethics, morality and social desirability. Those problems were under active consideration elsewhere and were not relevant.

The baby had been born and all that mattered was what was best for her and not how she arrived. His Lordship would reject any suggestion that the father and his wife were unsuitable as parents because they had entered into the arrangements.

What was best for the baby? The natural mother did not want her, Mr A and his wife wanted her. They were both highly qualified professional people with a house in the country and assets in town.

Materially they could give the baby a very good upbringing but, much more important, they were excellently equipped to meet the emotional needs of the baby. They were warm, caring, sensible and highly intelligent and would be able to answer the baby's questions when the time came, with professional advice if found necessary.

No one else was better equipped to care for the child. Accordingly the order was made that the wardship should continue, care and control should be given to Mr and Mrs A, their undertaking to return the baby to the jurisdiction if the court should so order and leave was given to take the baby to live outside the jurisdiction.

There were further orders that Order 63, rule 4 of the Rules of the Supreme Court should not apply and no one might search for, inspect or copy any of the documents filed in the proceedings without leave of the court and an order to similar effect applied to the documents in possession of the social services department of the local authority.

His Lordship approved arrangements for the immediate handover of the baby to Mr and Mrs A. They were worked out with the object, among others, of avoiding the identification of Mr and Mrs A. The case had been handled both by the local authority and by the father's legal advisers with skill, speed and sensitivity. There had been the fullest cooperation between them.

There had been some criticism of the local authority's action in obtaining a place of safety order. By Act of Parliament heavy responsibilities and duties were placed on local authorities and their social services departments where children were or might be at risk.

When the ward was born the local authority knew nothing about Mr and Mrs A. They could have been

buying babies for exploitation perhaps. If the authority had not taken steps to protect the child while the necessary inquiries were made it would have been in breach of its duties imposed by statute.

With hindsight, in such an unusual and complex case as the present, it might have been much better to issue a wardship summons straight away instead of seeking a place of safety order.

The High Court, under the wardship jurisdiction, had wide powers and resources which the juvenile court had not. The High Court could deal quickly with an urgent case - sometimes within minutes by the telephone. That was said with hindsight. Barnet had very little time to consider the matter and in the end no time was wasted.

Concerning publicity in the media, the overriding rule was that where a child was a ward of court there must be no publicity save with the leave of the court. Through the decades that had been well understood but new generations came from the media, the legal profession and other concerned areas and the rule must be restated.

Two major public interests were involved in contradiction. In an open society there should be freedom of information and publication. The other public interest was that the well-being of children was of paramount importance.

Save in exceptional circumstances the law was that the latter public interest prevailed over the former. Hence the rule that where a child was a ward of court nothing should be published without the leave of the court. All that was clearly and accurately set out in an article by the Legal Affairs Correspondent in *The Times* on January 10.

No one could fault the media save in the most exceptional circumstances approach the judge directly. The present case was different in that the wardship order was a deal of legitimate publicity before the child was made a ward of court. The media were left in a quandary about what could be properly written or said after the wardship came into being.

His Lordship had received many telephone calls and had thought it right to receive them and give such help as was proper. However that should not be regarded as a precedent and there must be no more approaches.

There must be no disclosure or publicity which might lead to the identification of Mr and Mrs A. It was unlikely that a finding should be pointed at the child that she was the subject of comment in the media.

It was inconceivable that leave would ever be given to publish the identities of Mr and Mrs A and it would be kind and compassionate to discontinue any inquiries which might be on foot and leave the couple to bring up the child in peace and quietness of mind.

Solicitors: Monier-Williams, Mr E. M. Bennett, Barnet.

Council in breach of gypsy site duty

Regina v Secretary of State for the Environment and Another, Ex parte Lee

Regina v Secretary of State for the Environment and Another, Ex parte Bond and Others

Before Mr Justice Mann

[Judgment delivered January 14]

Hertfordshire County Council, in failing to provide additional caravan sites for gypsies when its assessment of what was an appropriate number of pitches had for years been far above the number provided, was in breach of its duty under section 6 of the Caravan Sites Act 1968, as amended by the Local Government, Planning and Land Act 1980, to provide adequate accommodation for gypsies residing in or resorting to its area.

Mr Justice Mann so held in a reserved judgment in the Queen's Bench Division granting an application by the applicant gypsies for judicial review of the county council's exercise of powers under section 6 of the 1968 Act and of a decision by the Secretary of State for the Environment not to give directions under section 9 of the 1968 Act.

Mr Stephen Sedley, QC and Mr Keith Horby for Mr Lee and Mr Keith Horby for Mr Bond; Mr Nicholas Patten for Hertfordshire County Council; Mr David Latham for the Secretary of State.

MR JUSTICE MANN was referred to the judgment of Lord

Justice Roskill in *Kensington and Chelsea London Borough Council v Wicks* (1973) 72 LGR 289 (which held that councils were not in breach of duty under section 6 until the machinery under section 9 was operated) and to the judgment of Mr Justice Woolf in *R v Secretary of State for the Environment and Another* (1984) 1 WLR 334, 348B (in which the approach taken by Lord Justice Roskill was explained by the fact that he was considering section 6 in its unamended form).

His Lordship adopted the explanation given by Mr Justice Woolf and added a further consideration that the qualifications imposed by the original section 6(2) never applied to the duty imposed upon local authorities such as Hertfordshire. It was peculiar to county boroughs and London boroughs. The duty imposed upon the county council was not an inchoate one in the absence of a direction.

The correct approach was to ask simply whether at the moment the question was to be answered, there was an adequate accommodation for gypsies residing in or resorting to the area. If the answer was no, then whether the breach of duty should be visited by relief was a matter of discretion.

So simple an approach was appropriate having regard to the language of the statute and to the consideration that the court was not dealing with a technicality but with the ability of people to have secure

accommodation for their homes as peacefully as possible. It was not Parliament and with the removal of the often injurious environmental impact upon the public and local residents of unauthorized gypsy encampments.

Applying that test, the county council was in breach of its duty. Its assessment of what was an appropriate number of pitches had for 14 years been above attainment and far above it. There should be a remedy.

The financial restraint must have been a decisive restraint until it was removed in August 1978. The removal of the restraint had achieved six pitches.

A gypsy site was rightly or wrongly an unpopular thing. That was why the provision of such a thing was a burden imposed by Parliament upon county rather than upon district councils. The county council had failed to undertake the task put upon it.

There was no reason in principle why a declaration should not be made in proceedings for judicial review, even although private right was not asserted. Accordingly a declaration would be granted.

The Secretary of State declined to intervene on the basis that the county council was not in breach of its statutory duty. That was a false basis. The decision must be quashed.

Solicitors: Luce Kent & Co, Chancery, Mr W. J. Church, Hertford; Treasury Solicitor.

Inherent jurisdiction over solicitors

Symbol Park Lane Ltd v Skegges Palmer

Before Lord Justice Stephenson and Lord Justice Goff

[Judgment delivered December 21]

Bearing in mind the existence and nature of the jurisdiction under the Solicitors Act 1974 and the circumstances in which the inherent jurisdiction had been invoked in *Storvick & Johnson* (1890) 15 App Cas 203 and in *In re a Solicitor* ([1961] Ch 491), the inherent jurisdiction must be regarded as a residual jurisdiction which would only be invoked in very special circumstances where, although an order for taxation could not be made under the Act, justice required that it should be made. The structure of section 70 of the 1974 Act was such that the court should only invoke inherent jurisdiction to depart from it when it was necessary

to do so to put right what would otherwise be a clear injustice.

The Court of Appeal so held dismissing an application by Symbol Park Lane Ltd for leave to appeal against an order of Mr Justice Patten given in an appeal by Skegges Palmer from an order by Master Topley for taxation of four bills of costs delivered by Skegges Palmer to Symbol Park Lane.

Mr George Laurence for Symbol Park Lane; Mr David Latham for Skegges Palmer.

LORD JUSTICE ROBERT GOFF, delivering the reserved judgment of the court, said that in the instant case there was no such injustice which required the exercise of the court's inherent jurisdiction. Symbol Park Lane had ample opportunity to obtain an order for taxation under the Act and all that

had happened was that they had simply allowed the 12-month period to elapse after the delivery of the bills of costs without making an application.

His Lordship felt compelled to add that the passage in *Halbury's Law of England*, 4th edn (1963) vol 44, para 178, pp 135-136, did not accurately represent the law on the subject. It confused the second and third of the three jurisdictions described by Mr Justice Stirling in *In re Park* (1888) 41 Ch D 326, 331-332.

In consequence, it did not provide an accurate description of the scope of the inherent jurisdiction of the court. The clearest description of the three jurisdictions was to be found in the judgment of Mr Justice Stirling in that case.

Solicitors: Rakhosov, Skegges Palmer.

Barclays Bank Interest Rates.

BASE RATE

Barclays Bank PLC announces that with effect from the close of business on 14th January 1985, their Base Rate was increased from 10½% to 12%. This new rate also applies to Barclays Bank Trust Company Limited.



Reg. Office: 54 Lombard St., EC3P 3AH. Reg. No's 1026167 and 920890.

Williams & Glyn's

Interest Rate Changes

Williams & Glyn's Bank announces that with effect from 14th January 1985 its Base Rate for advances is increased from 10½% to 12% per annum.

Interest on deposits at 7 days' notice is increased from 7¼% to 9% per annum.



Williams & Glyn's Bank plc
A member of The Royal Bank of Scotland Group plc

Opposing claims after battle in the Sahara

Rabat (AP) - Morocco has confirmed that a big battle took place over the weekend between its forces and Polisario guerrillas in the disputed Western Sahara.

An earlier guerrilla offensive from Algeria claimed Polisario forces shot down a Moroccan Mirage F1 fighter, killed 311 Moroccan soldiers, wounded another 250 and forced a "disorderly retreat."

The Moroccan Information Ministry confirmed there had been a violent combat on Saturday between Moroccan forces and heavily armed and armoured mercenaries, but claimed Moroccan troops pushed the guerrillas back with heavy losses.

The guerrillas claimed the engagement took place along a partially completed defence wall being erected by Morocco.

Korean dissident stopped from boarding plane

Seoul (AP) - Dozens of police stopped Mr Kim Yong-Sam, the South Korean dissident leader, from boarding a domestic flight to visit his father in the southern city of Masan, aides to Mr Kim reported.

Accompanied by his wife and two secretaries, the former opposition party leader was to have flown to Kimhae but police surrounded him in the passenger lobby of Kimpo domestic airport, Seoul, to keep him from boarding the plane, the aides said.

Mr Kim, aged 57, who once headed the now outlawed opposition New Democratic Party, is among 15 former politicians still barred from politics under a Government political blacklist law of 1980.

The Government plans to hold National Assembly elections on February 12

015110150

You've heard the fallacies about the NHS drugs bill. Now here are the facts.

From the 1st April the Department of Health proposes to cut the range of medicines prescribable on the NHS. This means that many valuable treatments will not be freely available in any form.

Below we present some facts and fallacies about medicines and their costs to Britain. We hope that this information will help you to understand why this bureaucratic plan (which would reduce NHS doctors' prescribing freedom, impair the treatment of some patients and harm the British pharmaceutical industry) is as unnecessary as it is uncaring.

FALLACY: The NHS medicines bill is rapidly escalating and running out of control.

FACT: Over the past 20 years the medicines bill, as a proportion of total NHS expenditure, has remained almost constant. It is still under 10 per cent of NHS costs.

FALLACY: There are as many as 17,000 products available on the NHS TWICE as many as 25 years ago.

FACT: When government ministers refer to 17,000 products they are talking about product licences, the numbers of which have, in fact, halved not doubled since 1971. Doctors prescribe almost entirely from a range of just over 2,000 products listed in the Monthly Index of Medical Specialities (MIMS).

FALLACY: Doctors' prescribing in the UK is excessive.

FACT: Doctors in this country write on average 6.5 prescriptions per patient a year. Doctors in comparable developed countries – such as Germany, France, Italy and Spain – write almost twice as many prescriptions for each patient.

FALLACY: Medicine prices in this country are too high and are unfair to the taxpayer.

FACT: Medicine prices in this country are competitive with those in other major manufacturing nations – and have been subject to government regulation since 1957. Per head, Britain spends on medicines about half the amount recorded in Germany, France, America or Japan. The average cost to the taxpayer of an NHS prescription is just over £4. The average cost of treating an NHS patient in hospital is around £550 a week.

FALLACY: Pharmaceutical companies make excessive profits.

FACT: Pharmaceutical companies, on average, earn a real return on historic capital of 17-18 per cent on sales to the NHS – the same as the average profit for manufacturing industry as a whole.

FALLACY: The pharmaceutical companies are mainly multi-national, and make little contribution to the nation's economy.

FACT: Pharmaceutical exports from the UK by multi-national research based companies exceed imports by some £650 million a year – a considerable benefit to British taxpayers and the national economy.

FALLACY: Pharmaceutical companies are not producing any really worthwhile new products.

FACT: In the last 25 years there have been major new products for the treatment of, for example, asthma, epilepsy, heart disease, ulcers, virus diseases, high blood pressure, Parkinson's disease, leukaemia in children, some other cancers and mental illnesses. Furthermore new drugs have played a major role in saving the lives of patients needing heart, kidney and liver transplants.

FALLACY: The Government's proposals will save taxpayers £100 million.

FACT: Costs arising from the measures – unemployment benefits to former pharmaceutical company employees, re-employment costs, lost exports, could cost taxpayers more than the community will gain. In practical terms the only 'savings' to the taxpayer would come from the pockets of the sick, the elderly and the unemployed, who on occasions would have to pay directly for the medicines they need.

These are the facts. Do you really believe there is a case for setting up a 'limited list' of medicines for NHS patients?

The plan would damage severely the one British industry that is at present able to compete with the Americans, the Japanese and the Germans in international markets. Write to your MP at the House of Commons, London SW1.



Fighting for a healthier future.

The Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry.

SPECTRUM

The Human Village: the brain is the administrative centre of the body. In part two of our series, Science Correspondent Thomson Prentice looks at the complex ways in which it helps and protects us

The great dictator in us all



The brain initiates and controls every action and event. The workings of the brain's unique corridors of power are vastly more complicated than the biggest bureaucracy. Yet they function with unrivalled efficiency. The doors of the mind, literally the head office, are never closed. Behind them are filed the blueprints of our existence. Today we look through those doors.

BRAIN

The human brain is the most complex physical structure in the world. It is the most intriguing and most baffling area of the body. And it has shielded its secrets from scientists for centuries. "In studying the history of the human mind, each step forward has been the most painful and laborious achievement", wrote Carl Gustav Jung.

Our brain is more crowded with cells than any other tissue in the body. It represents one 50th of body weight (about three pounds), but consumes one fifth of the body's blood and oxygen supply.

But the brain does not lose weight when we do. Biological defence mechanism make sure that during periods of starvation, virtually every other organ is sacrificed first. And only when the brain is dead, is the body considered to have died.

You were born with about ten billion nerve cells, or neurones; a bee has 950 neurones, an ant 250. Each human neurone communicates with its neighbours via many thousands of connections. In more primitive animals, most of these connections are genetically predetermined. Their behaviour and reactions are "fixed" from birth.

Only a few such pathways are predetermined in humans. During the long period of infancy, connections are formed in the light of experience, rather than by programming. Our ability to learn in this way is the unique quality and crowning achievement of being human.

Unlike other cells, neurones which die cannot be replaced. Every day, around 10,000 perish. The basis on which these cells are selected to die, and what causes their death, are mysteries.

From birth to adulthood, the brain quadruples in size. Much of the extra bulk is added by glial cells, whose function is also not fully understood, but which outnumber neurones ten to one.

Although the human brain is only one sixth the size of a sperm whale's brain, or a quarter the size of an elephant's, it has phenomenal overcapacity. Tens of thousands of neurones are believed to perform identical tasks. So although thousands die daily, the vast numbers of survivors provide plenty of alternative routes across the brain.

Instructions and information travel from one neurone to another via electrical impulses. Neurones manufacture and release chemical messengers, known as neurotransmitters.

The study of these chemicals is an important new branch of science, and one which is believed to hold the key to many crippling disorders of the brain. The most exciting recent discoveries have involved identifying the neuro-transmitter's role in many serious and degenerative diseases. This research has already led to a treatment for Parkinson's disease.

Although some descriptions compare the brain with an electrical wiring diagram, nerve impulses are much slower than ordinary electrical current. The maximum speed of a transmission across the brain is 350 feet a second, but often nerve impulses travel much more slowly.

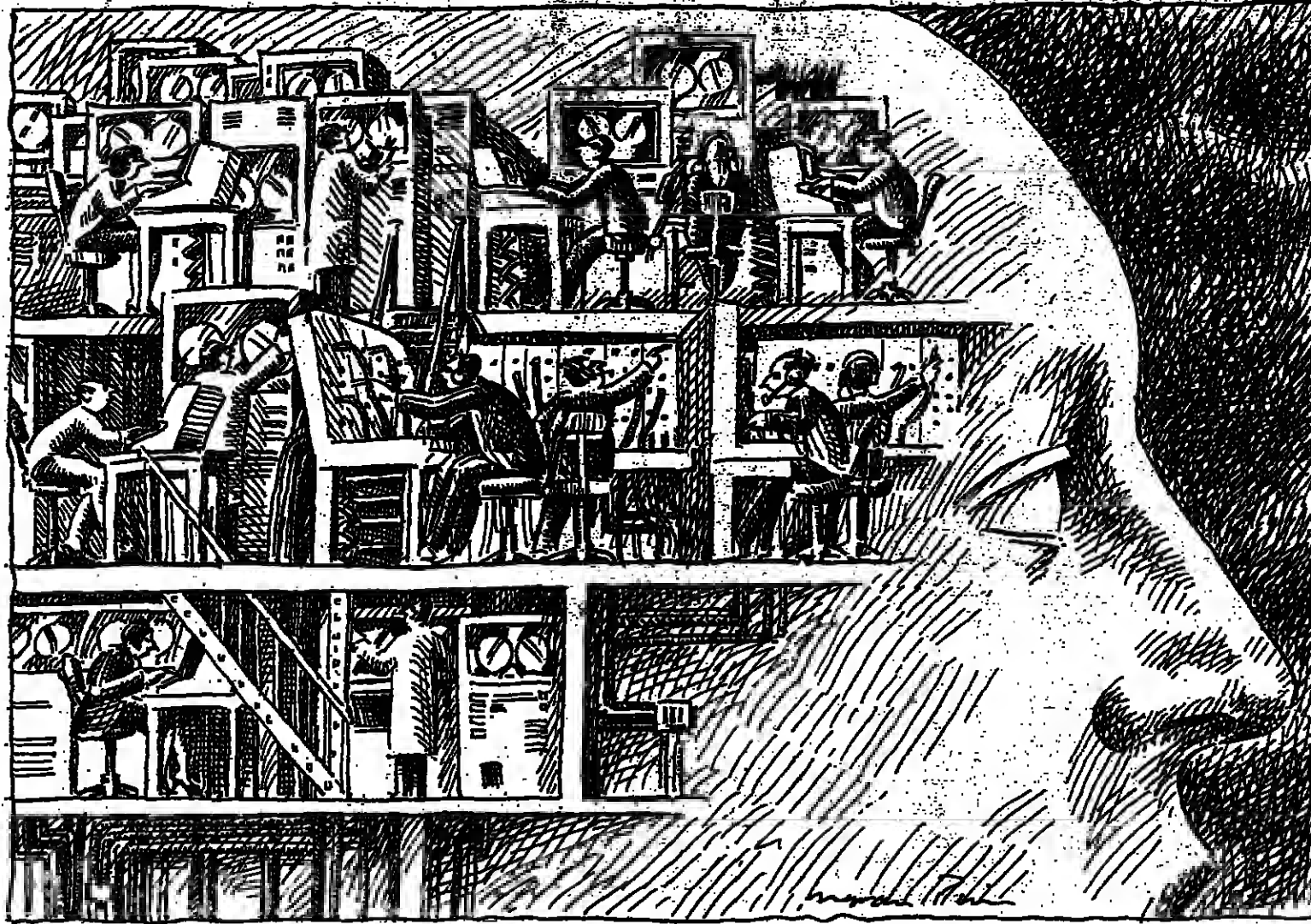
In fact, our reactions seem positively sluggish compared with those of many other animals. The part of the cell which transports electrical messages is an extended thin fibre known as an axon. The longer the axon, the greater the speed. Many other species have longer axons.

The largest part of the brain is divided into two halves. The left side is broadly associated with activity on the right side of the body, and vice versa; but this symmetry is not perfect.

For most people, the left side houses the speech and linguistic functions, and is dominant. Brain damage on this side has much more obvious effects. A stroke in the left hemisphere, for example, can often leave its victim speechless. This is an instance where the famous overcapacity of the brain seems powerless to compensate for the lost neurones.

A very small number of people are right-side dominant. This phenomenon is not directly related to whether they are left or right-handed.

Nineteenth century students of the brain delighted in citing the fact that the woman's brain is about five ounces lighter than a man's, as evidence of lower intelligence. Their conceit was deflated when the ratio between bodyweight was discovered. Since then, there has been some evidence that the left hemisphere is proportionately slightly smaller in the male. It has been suggested, but



not conclusively proven, that this is caused by the exposure of the foetal brain to the male hormone, testosterone.

However, leading British neurobiologist, Steven Rose, believes this difference in size has no relevance to the alleged mental and emotional differences between men and women. Dr Malcolm Caruthers, a clinical pathologist, disagrees. He argues that the release of male and female hormones does have an impact on the nascent brain - and thus on human nature.

Although the brain copes with the natural death of 10,000 nerve cells every day, further loss can seriously damage the way it functions. The neurones are extremely sensitive to toxic substances and so the brain protects itself with a selective filtration system - often known as the blood-brain barrier.

The effectiveness of this barrier is due to the relative impermeability of the blood vessels in the brain. But it does not provide total protection: poisons can still get through. The role of alcohol in killing off nerve cells and ultimately causing shrinkage of the brain (in cases of chronic alcoholism) is well known. The Mad Hatter was not just a figment of Lewis Carroll's imagination - hatmakers of the 18th and 19th

centuries suffered toxic psychosis as a result of daily exposure to mercury, which was used in the manufacture of felt.

Some scientists believe that poisoning in children results in behavioural abnormalities. Exposure to manganese can lead to a form of Parkinson's disease. Untreated diabetes, kidney failure and liver failure all result in the production of substances poisonous to the brain.

Parkinson's disease results from the loss of the neurotransmitter dopamine in the corpus striatum (a structure near the centre of the brain which moderates movement). Without the dopamine, the pathways along which messages and instructions are passed are closed off.

Victims of the disease are now given L-dopa, a chemical precursor of dopamine which can pass through the blood-brain barrier. It is not known what causes the progressive loss of the naturally occurring dopamine. As so often happens in medicine, the treatment has been discovered in advance of the cause.

There is evidence that an imbalance of dopamine creates the symptoms of schizophrenia. The disorder is treated with substances which modify dopamine response. Although the causes and mechanisms

of epilepsy are still not fully understood, drugs are available which inhibit the massive electrical discharges which give rise to epileptic fits.

The symptoms of multiple sclerosis and a number of other degenerative diseases involve the progressive destruction of myelin, a fatty substance which surrounds and insulates the long transmission fibres of nerve cells (axons). It is not known how to prevent the destruction of myelin, or how to replace it.

Scientists at the Institute of Neurology in London discovered that senile dementia (Alzheimer's disease) implicated another neurotransmitter, acetylcholine, which can be produced in the laboratory. However, no way has been found yet of targeting it to the brain.

But science has already conquered a number of infectious diseases of the brain, including general paresis, polio, meningitis, and certain forms of encephalitis.

As understanding of the more mysterious disorders grows, new treatments and ultimately methods of prevention are likely to be found, just as they were for polio.

More than any other organ in the body, the brain has developed defences for its own survival. Yet it is still vulnerable to attacks by

nature and by man himself. In infancy and adulthood, studies of severely malnourished children have shown them to have smaller head circumferences and impaired mental performances in later life. This damage remains even though the child subsequently receives an adequate diet. Such a slight now faces the children who have survived, but only just, the famine in Ethiopia.

As adults, we damage our brains with alcohol, cigarettes, and other drugs. We know that boxing causes cerebral damage and other symptoms of illness, but it remains a legal sport.

"The mind of man is capable of anything, because everything is in it, all the past as well as all the future," wrote Joseph Conrad, in *Heart of Darkness*.

Anthony Smith, zoologist, broadcaster, and author of *The Mind*, published by Hodder and Stoughton last year, wrote in his postscript: "The brain of modern man, whatever its origins, is better than it needs to be, and rarely tapped for its true potential."

"The brain of future man will also, for quite a while, be ahead of its requirements. This fact will only change when some future generation learns how to use the instrument, to the full, to the best of its extraordinary abilities."

"Liver, spleen, heart and guts are all intriguing, but cannot hold a candle to the brain. It is the most important thing on Earth, for good or ill."

MIND HEALTH

Britain is a neurotic nation, swallowing hundreds of millions of tranquilizers every year to keep depression and anxiety at bay. But a healthy mind, like a healthy body, cannot be prescribed. The most effective treatment often will be that which we apply to ourselves.

Neuroses is the general term applied to conditions of mental or emotional disturbance not caused by a specific mental disease. It is the leading category of diagnosis by family doctors in Britain, with 355 patients per 1,000 thus described, each year.

Doctors prescribed 1,834,080,700 tranquilizers in just under 29

BODY SURVIVAL

Medical science is continuing to make tremendous advances in the treatment of brain diseases and damage. Brilliant surgical techniques and the most sophisticated methods and equipment daily save and restore life.

The scanner and the scalpel are essential aids in evaluating and treating diseases of the brain tissue. However, the efficient working of the brain - its mental processes - can be safeguarded and even improved by our own comparatively simple actions and attitudes.

The brain benefits from fresh air and healthy exercise, just like the rest of the body. Similarly, it suffers from poisons, pollution and under-utilization. Like all of us, it needs good food and proper rest in adequate amounts.

Give your brain a holiday. Take it away from everyday pressures and stress, from the potentially damaging effects of alcohol, cigarettes and drugs. Consider whether it would benefit from modifications to your diet. Does it get enough sleep, or perhaps too much? Is it already overworked - or could it benefit from just a little more exertion?

million prescriptions in 1981; the equivalent of 30 pills or tablets for every man, woman and child in the country. Yet many of the mysteries of the brain's chemistry remain unsolved, and many forms of neurosis are difficult to define.

Stress, anxiety and depression are the most common terms for the danger signals the brain emits when it comes under heavy burdens of pressure.

"Stress is like an electrical load on the circuit", says Harley Street specialist, Dr Malcolm Caruthers. "Some of us are on three amp fuses, some on 13 or even 30 amps. Our tolerance is partly hereditary, and partly determined by how we train ourselves."

Twice as many women as men are prescribed tranquilizers for depression and anxiety. Most at risk are middle-aged housewives. Marital or domestic problems are the main causes of their troubled minds.

Worry and stress account for 77 per cent of all mental disorders, according to a MORI survey last year. More serious conditions such as schizophrenia, paranoia, melancholia and mental confusion may have a wide range of causes, some little understood, including congenital and environmental factors.

Such conditions require expert medical attention and treatment, and research continues to interweave into the production of anti-psychotic and other drugs. But the great majority of people who suffer less serious mental disorders can do much to help themselves.

Mr Ron Lacey, assistant director of campaigns at MIND, the National Association for Mental Health, says: "The prescribing of tranquilizers is going down and it is now recognized that they have limited uses and are highly addictive. We want to see a substantial reduction in such prescriptions."

"We believe in social solutions, rather than medical ones. There is a real need for people to take their own health, including their mental health, more seriously. We have become too dependent on doctors and medicines."

Seeking advice from professional advisers, counsellors, voluntary organizations and others who are prepared to listen to and discuss problems may be a useful support to a busy general practitioner already overburdened with the cares of thousands of patients. Examining the way we live may offer more enduring and less hazardous solutions than a bottle of tranquilizers.

TOMORROW

Our series concludes at the chemical factory and cleansing station: the liver and kidneys

MYTHS AND MISCONCEPTIONS

① That psychiatric patients never get better. They do. Well over 90 per cent of all endogenous depressives respond to treatment and don't need a main-tenance dose of antidepressants. Eighty per cent of phobic patients recover. Fifty per cent of alcoholics are dry a year after treatment. Thirty three per cent of schizophrenic patients return to a normal social life after treatment. Only 15 per cent of schizophrenic patients run a steady downhill course.

② That patients who talk about suicide won't commit suicide. Quite wrong. Nearly all patients who commit suicide tell somebody, often many people more than once.

③ That tranquilizers retain their power. Minor tranquilizers are only useful for up to three or four months.

④ That schizophrenic patients have a joyful and lively character. They don't. This personality is much more characteristic of the chronic alcoholic or the psychopath. The term split mind applied to a schizophrenic was meant to refer to the split which occurs between his thoughts and expression and it has been misused ever since.

⑤ That all schizophrenics are dangerous. They are not. Most are shy, retiring and frightened rather than aggressive. Only a few paranoid patients are violent. Relatives of schizophrenics find little more trouble than paranoia.

⑥ That treated epileptics are a danger on the road. They are not. The driving record of epileptics who are allowed to drive following successful treatment is much better than that of the population at large.

⑦ That you cannot become an alcoholic if you only drink beer or if you never drink spirits. There is no truth in this whatsoever.

⑧ That beer and wine are nourishing foods. They are not. They provide "empty calories".

⑨ That you have to be physically dependent on alcohol to have an alcohol problem. You don't; problems associated with over-indulgence of alcohol can take many forms and both physical and mental deterioration can follow intermittent drinking.

⑩ That all heavy drinkers will get cirrhosis. They won't. Only one in ten develops cirrhosis although 50 per cent of all alcoholics will suffer from cerebral atrophy (brain shrinkage) and an even higher proportion from mental symptoms.

Back Pain?

The unique alternative treatment for Back Pain — Tension or Muscular problems.

Osteopathy Systems combine modern technology with proven effective treatments in a unique range of equipment for home use.

AS FEATURED ON TV.

Computer controlled means maximum benefits with minimum loss when using this deep-controlled adjustable De Luxe Rollax-Chair. It has two built-in therapeutic treatment units for your neck, back and legs and provides six time-controlled programmes.

What Controlled Massage does

The massage programmes built into our unique beds and chairs are controlled by a micro computer programme which relaxes the spinal muscles, improves the blood flow and helps relieve the pain, muscle stress and tension. There are a million users around the world experiencing relief from the Osteopathy Systems. Indeed, our professionally qualified team of consultants have years of experience dealing with back problems, so that you may be confident in our ability to help you.

Osteopathy Systems Ltd.

Send Today. No stamp needed. It costs nothing to find out more. And you are under no obligation, send to: O.S.L. Dept OTT, FREEPOST, Smeed Road, Old Ford, London E3 2BR.

To O.S.L. I should like to know more about your unique chairs and beds. I understand there is no obligation of any kind.

Name (Mr, Mrs, Ms),

(Black letters)

Address

Post code

O.S.L. Dept OTT, FREEPOST, Smeed Road, Old Ford, London E3 2BR.

Relax a Bed

Gives you therapeutic massage treatment on either side of your spine and on your thighs and legs. The treatment unit then retracts for normal use.

Osteopathy Systems Ltd.

Help relax your pain away

Gricers (n): Strange old buffers with one-track minds

moreover... Miles Kington

Last year, when The Times was a mere 199 years old, I was wondering out loud in this column about the derivation of the word "gricer".

A gricer is a railway fanatic who collects train numbers and spots their activities, but it is such an odd word, without any obvious lineage, that I couldn't help feeling curious about its birth. In such a situation most journalists would do some research, but I always prefer to leave it to the readers: the most knowledgeable journalist is never as wise as the most knowledgeable reader.

And so it proved. I was deluged with theories about the origin of the word. It came from a street called Grice Street: it came from a Mr A. Grice, who had a van near a big station: it came from an archaic word "grice", meaning an animal's yoke, usually the young of swine: it was connected to an old public school slang term "to groise", meaning to work unnecessarily hard and carry favour, and so on.

The last two theories occur in a 1979 number of *Branch Line News*, kindly sent to me by Mr Turner of East Grinstead, who says in his letter that he first heard the word "during the 1950s when I was participating in a trolleybus tour of parts of the Bournemouth Corporation system; several persons were becoming exceedingly ex-

cited while various junctions were negotiated and I heard it said that 'that constituted some real gricing'. No further comment.

But the theory which most people mentioned was one printed in a letter in the June 1970 edition of *Railway World*, a copy of which was sent to me by Mr Gibbons of Leighton Buzzard. The letter, signed by a Colonel Soupspoon, dates the origin of gricer back to August 1938 when a trio of Mancunian rail enthusiasts were tramping the moors looking for old lead mines and their derelict tracks. They encountered instead numerous signs of grouse-shooting and it occurred to them that railway fanatics were very like grouse shooters: both would journey to the strangest places, under the most uncomfortable conditions, in pursuit of their quarry. Both, that is, are gricers.

No proof is offered for this strange theory, but everyone apparently accepts it, no doubt because it is the most colourful. Fair enough. But what interest me is the pejorative overtone the word seems to have acquired over the years. From being simply a collector of railway information, a gricer has become something of a figure of fun, if only for his unvarying accountants. A gricer can be recognized, it appears, from his long shabby mac,

camera, tape-recorder, National Health specs, sandwiches packed in an Army kit bag, binoculars, ballpoint pens, tweed jacket with elbow patches, grey trousers and old brogues.

I first heard the word in South America, when travelling with a film crew on Peruvian railways. Nick Lera, the cameraman, said in my ear: "My God, it's a gricer," pointing to a young man in grey mac, shabby specs, and so on. We got talking to the specimen and found that in truth the young man had come on his holidays from Belfast merely to take Peruvian train numbers. No wonder *Railway World* has suggested capturing a gricer and putting him in the Railway Museum at York.

The least friendly view of the gricer came from Mr Abbey of Cirencester, who is a volunteer fireman on the Ffestiniog Railway and has met his share of gricers. "They seem happy to give inane comments, complaining, for example, that original metals and methods have not been used in restoration. But when invited to get their hands dirty

and give up their time to work unpaid in dirty conditions, they tend to fight shy. Gricers know everything, but do nothing."

I think Mr Abbey points the way here to a wider use of the word gricer. There are many fields, surely, inhabited by people who know everything but take no part. I think of the opera-lover who knows every cast change in *Aida* since 1870, but cannot sing a note: the

wine buff who knows every vineyard within ten miles of Margaux, but has never trod a grape: the pedant who knows every obscure rule of grammar without being able to turn a graceful sentence, or the historian of popular song who can quote the words of every verse but doesn't know what key any of them was written in. There has not been, until now, a word to fit them. Could gricer be that word?

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 544)

ACROSS
1 Surface layer (6)
2 Occurrence (4)
3 Exclusive (5)
4 Relief (7)
5 Apostrophe (6)
6 Information (4)
7 Knotted whip (11,4,5)
8 Curious (4)
9 Unmarried woman (8)
10 Prohibition (7)
11 Blind (5)
12 Mountain (4)
13 Corrigenda (6)

DOWN
1 Forfeited (5)
2 Frozen water (3)
3 Liable to misfortune (6,5)
4 Manage (8)
5 Study outlines (7)
6 Decline in value (10)
7 Break law (10)

12 Used up (6)

14 Consideration (4)

16 Unrest (7)

19 Tease (5)

20 Rugged rock (4)

22 Eur. lorry tyre (1,2,3)

SOLUTION TO No 543

ACROSS: 1 Fling, 4 Beguile, 8 Azim, 10 Pamphlet, 11 Grim, 13 Frankfurter, 17 And, 18 Enfeble, 21 Premise, 22 Lauds, 23 Whiff, 24 Embod, 25 Down, 26 Frigate, 27 Idiom, 28 Gymkhana, 29 Banter, 30 Gaze, 31 Down, 32 Rust, 33 True, 34 Raiment, 35 Pawpaw, 36 Smeared, 37 Blurt, 38 Fine.

YOHJI TAMAMOTO

10 Longdon Arcade SW2

Reduced by 30%, 40% & 50%

JOSEPH RICO

10 Stone Street, London EC3A 3DF

Chinese Laundry

10 Stone Street, London EC3A 3DF

Chinese Laundry

10 Stone Street, London EC3A 3DF

Chinese Laundry

10 Stone Street, London EC3A 3DF

Chinese Laundry

10 Stone Street, London EC3A 3DF

Chinese Laundry

10 Stone Street, London EC3A 3DF

Chinese Laundry

10 Stone Street, London EC3A 3DF

Chinese Laundry



Above: Patricia Roberts's stained glass window of textures in mohair and silk, mixing cobalt blue, orange, purple, jade and lemon yellow. Sweater kit \$57.20, including knitting book and p & p from Patricia Roberts, 60 Kinnerston Street, London SW1. Ready knitted sweater \$195 from Patricia Roberts, 31 James Street, Covent Garden WC2. Black rubber and royal blue cotton jersey skirt \$28 from Land & Burr, 35 Neal Street WC2. Parsipex chain link necklace by Pellini from Liberty, Harvey Nichols, Harrods; Hoopers of Torquay.

Right: Geometric blocks of pale colour for Lister-Lee hand-knit pattern 2125 in mohair-cotton blend. Yarn: Tahiti cotton £1.25 per 25gm ball. Average cost £26.25 from Dickens and Jones; Harrods; Selfridge; House of Fraser stores nationwide and other Lister-Lee stockists. Wet suit fabric for a straight skirt £58 from Michiko Koshino, 7 Dering Street W1. Painted perspex necklace £19.95 and earrings £7.95 by Marlene McKibbin from Harvey Nichols.



Hair by Sally at Simon Patten, 54 Crawford Street W1. Make-up by Debbie Burn using Mary Quant's Cut of this World with Shades of Sky eyeshadow and Fuchsia Shock lips. Fashion assistant: Christine Pinnell. Photographs by MIKE OWEN

Yarns that stretch the imagination

The latest toy for knitters is a great big bouncy latex rubber ball. Rubber thread is the newest in a series of flamboyant yarns that are capturing the young market and rocketing knitting from Granny's fireside to the high tech age.

Fluffy feathers, shiny viscose and rainbows of ribbons have all given a new dimension to sturdy hand-knits. Stitchcraft used to be the only way to give surface interest to your winter woolly. Now the yarns themselves, and especially the new generation of tactile cottons, give relief and texture.

Hand-knitting can still be a complex craft as the needles create a furrowed field of cables or a magic carpet of Fair Isle. But increasingly the energy and effort is put in by the yarn producers who are offering hand-knitters a basketful of options.

The most exciting of the yarns are produced by the French company Laines Anny Blatt, who launch this week their Boule de Gomme, a stretchy latex yarn which gives a futuristic look and texture.

The same company has given us fur and feather, both knitted in as yarn, glamorous in effect and displayed in pattern books that are the haute couture of knitting and prove just how far the craft has come from its humble peasant roots.

Ribboos was the first new material to challenge the supremacy of wool and the cotton and linen yarns which are given increasing prominence in the new knitting patterns for spring. Ribboos is now available from several suppliers, colour matched to the range of yarns and knitted together in the patterns to give the desirable textural effect.

Offray ribbons, the trimming specialists, are so convinced about this fashion development that they are launching their own range of Knitting Ribbon next month, made in polyester and especially designed to use for hand-knitting and crochet, both for garments and for accessories such as lace yokes, sleeves and collars. It comes in seven millimetre widths in 100-metre reels in 15 colours and will be on sale by March 1 at £8.99 a reel.

I first realized that any long continuous thread - from telephone wire to a washing line - could be knitted, when I selected work for an exhibition at the British Crafts Centre. Just as designer knitters once challenged traditional shapes and colours of hand-knits, so they are now experimenting with yarn that makes your new spring sweater look like a rag rug or a Brillo pad.

The more established designers are mixing yarns, making unexpected juxtapositions of texture, like Patricia Roberts's patchwork of featherlight mohair and pure silk or a lattice work of mohair with Shetland fleck wool, both from her knitting book No 9.

Occident Eastern textiles are the source of Christian de Falbe's Rumie and China grass, both speciality hand-knitting

yarns which are similar to hemp, jute and flax. De Falbe's studio yarns and designer patterns are available from Liberty's new hand-knitting department.

The knitting designers who moved into the yarn market out of frustration with the big mills are in the vanguard of change. Sandy Black's bobbly cotton fuzz is an example of a yarn which captures the current fashion trend.

But whereas the mills were slow to appreciate the booming demand for imaginative hand-knit patterns, they have responded much more quickly to the changes in yarn. Patons and Baldwins who, like *The Times*, celebrates its 200th anniversary in 1985, is planning a special fashion show in April to emphasize the exciting developments in hand-knitting.

An interesting blend of mohair and cotton and of a textured mohair with man-made are featured in Lister-Lee's range of new hand-knit yarns, along with a stub-textured "Bamboo" cotton.

Designer knitting packs are still the most practical way to buy the pricey yarns in precise quantities. Designer kits are available from Rowan Yarns, Green Lane Mill, Washpit, Holmfirth, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire HD7 1RW. A new catalogue including kit designs from Susan Duckworth and Kaffe Fassett is free (send large s.a.e.) from Ehrman, 21/23 Vicarage Gate, London W.8.

New knitting shops are being cast on all over the country, including the department at Liberty in the heart of London's West End. Ries Wools of Holborn have a large Anny Blatt area on the lower ground floor to show off the creative yarn collection.

Although the natural yarns such as wool and cotton are by far the most important to the knitter, I see a movement back to the viscose and shiny rayons which last surfaced in the 1950s. Then the bright-as-paint machine-made knits were a reaction to war time make-do-and-mend. Now the earth mother's children are backing off from back-to-nature.

The image of Grace Kelly haunts the designers at the French yarn company Plogouin, which has produced a shiny viscose in 12 jewel colours at £3.20 per 50gm ball. They have also followed a theme of matt and shine, which comes out in a cotton turtleneck exactly colour-matched to a shiny polyester.

Just as the knitting yarns are changing radically, so has the fashionable way to wear a hand-knit. The homely image of woolly with tweed or cotton sweater and cotton skirt has been sharpened up.

Fashion designers are making garments in high tech materials like the wet-suit rubber skirts on this page by Michiko Koshino and the ridged rubbers at Land & Burr or from Barbara de Vries. These space-age materials are also used for accessories including the essential rubber-soled boot.



Above centre: Rubber ball sweater knitted from Anny Blatt's boules de gomme latex, viscose, wool and nylon. Yarn cost £56.60, leaflet free from Liberty's new knitting department, Regent Street W1. Ries Wools, 242-243 High Holborn WC1. Woolies, Gosforth; U-Duit, Ripley; Plumes, Swansea. Information from Laines Anny Blatt, (UK) Ltd, Bull Bridge, Ambergate, Derby. Wet suit fabric stirrup pants £78 from Michiko Koshino, 7 Dering Street W1. Modern art perspex brooch and bangle by Pellini from Harrods; Harvey Nichols; Liberty; Hoopers of Torquay.

Above: Dramatic evening sweater with leathers by Anny Blatt in angora, Ecoss cotton, pure silk and plume, total yarn cost £121. Anny Blatt pattern book number 59 £2.00. All from Ries Wools, 242-243 High Holborn WC2 plus mail order. Ridged rubber skirt by Barbara de Vries £40.25 from Liberty, Regent Street; Fenwick, New Bond Street; Chic, Canterbury. Urban Renewal, Brighton. Leaflet necklaces £14.95, earrings £8.95, by Marlene McKibbin from Harvey Nichols.

Left: Boldly patterned geometric Fair Isle sweater by Sandy Black. Yarn Cotton Fizz Kit £22.95 from Liberty; Harrods; Army and Navy Stores; Fenwick, Brent Cross; Anderson and McCauley, Bellist; Ritz Knits, Brighton; Eden Lily, Cambridge; Designer Yarns, Glasgow; Cloud Nine, Skipton. White ridged rubber straight skirt £42 from Land & Burr, 35 Neal Street WC2. Plastic link earrings by Pellini from Harvey Nichols; Harrods; Liberty; Hoopers, Torquay.

Joseph
6 Sloane Street
Azzedine Alaïa
Claude Montana
J P Gaultier
Katharine Hammett
Cerruti
and many other
designer names

YOHJI YAMAMOTO
23 Brompton Arcade,
SW3
Reduced by
30% 40% & 50%

JOSEPH TRICOT
18 Sloane Street
16 South Molton St
Collection of knitwear
reduced by
30% & 40%

CHINESE LAUNDRY
13 & 14 Sth Molton St
53 Kings Rd, SW3
Katharine Hammett
Body Map
All Stock Reduced by
30% & 40%

KENZO
17 Sloane St, W1
27-29 Brook St, W1
OUR FANTASTIC
SALES
START ON
SATURDAY
12th JANUARY

TAPESTRY OFFER

This lovely tapestry of shells and flowers in sandy yellow, coral and blues has been designed exclusively for us by Susan Skene, one of Britain's most accomplished needlework designers. She is famous for her light and subtle blends of colour and this tapestry makes a delightful cushion or picture which would fit well in any setting.



The design measures 14" x 14" and is worked in simple half-cross stitch. It is printed in the full ten colours: Coral, sand, pastel pink, pale blue, navy, dove grey, pale lime, peacock green, a light mauve, oyster and white. The canvas, 18 holes to the inch, is easy on the eyes. The kit comes complete with all the required yarns from the Appleton Tapestry range, needle and instructions. All for £16.50 including postage and packing. Use FREEPOST - No stamp needed.

Ehrman, 21/23 Vicarage Gate, London, W8 4AA. Registered No. 2286455. Please allow 28 days for delivery. Money back if kit returned unused within 14 days.

To: **EHMAN, FREEPOST LONDON, W8 4BB**
Please send me tapestry kits at £16.50 each.
I enclose Cheque/PO made out to Ehrman for £..... (Total)
Name.....
Address.....
TMJ/85

FASHFLASH

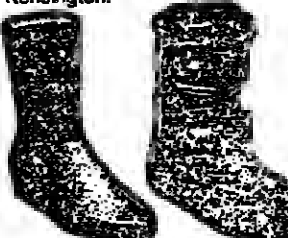
STURDY, WARM AND WATER-PROOF TO BEAT THE BIG FREEZE



Left: Circ garter boot, fur-lined in grey and black, £27.95 by Nordica from Lilywhites, Piccadilly. Right: Calf-length boxer boot in quilted white nylon, fake fur-lined, £24.95, Lilywhites ski department.



Left: Furry large lady's boot on crepe sole £52.50, sizes 6-11, from Crispins, 28-30 Chitram Street W1; Royal Exchange, Manchester. Right: Blue suede-look ruched boot £39.90, Snow and Rock, Kensington.



Left: Ribbed rubber boot (unlined) £12.99 by Melissa, Fenwick W1; Mackay Wilson, Edinburgh. Right: Man's padded leather-look boot £39.90, Snow and Rock, 188 Kensington High Street W8 and Birmingham. Illustrations by MICHAEL DAVIDSON. Report: CHRISTINE PAINELL

SAINT LAURENT

rive gauche

WOMANS SALE NOW ON

113 NEW BOND STREET, LONDON, W1 37 BROMPTON ROAD, LONDON, SW3
Tel: 01-493 1800 Tel: 01-584 1561

THE NO. 1
INTERNATIONAL FASHION GROUP
THE NO. 1
SALE IN LONDON
50% OFF.

Régine

43/44 New Bond Street, London W1
92 Brompton Road, Knightsbridge SW1.

Genny
Complice
Krizia
Montana
Jean-Paul Gaultier
Soprani
Oscar de la Renta

Gianni Versace

12 New Bond Street, W1 men 35 Brook Street W1 ladies
92 Brompton Road, Knightsbridge SW1

GIANFRANCO
FERRE

37b Brook Street, W1 men 23 Brook Street, W1 ladies

Limited stock of leather,
knitwear and sportswear.

THE TIMES DIARY

Gaddafi plan torpedoed

Did Colonel Gaddafi once try to sink the QE2? This was one of the more incredible stories of the early 1970s, but according to Anwar Sadat, in a posthumous book of his writings due out from Cape next month, it is absolutely true. The Egyptian president states that in 1973 he lent Gaddafi two submarines "to protect his country against danger". Gaddafi allegedly sent one, however, to sink the QE2. The Egyptian president's story is a full complement of passengers bound for Israel's 25th anniversary celebrations. Sadat only learnt of this "frightful order" when the commander contacted Egyptian naval command to say he was en route. Gaddafi was deliberately communicating. Sadat gave immediate orders - which mercifully got through - to abort the mission. "The world would never have forgiven the Arabs for committing this criminal and barbaric act," writes Sadat, "who was assassinated in 1981. 'This would have been the shameful consequence of giving arms to... a madman.'"

Shrewd move

My note that Michael Heseltine was known simply as "God" at Oxford has brought a wry smile to many faces, not least his peers at Shrewsbury. One school friend rang to tell me Heseltine was so bad at sciences that at one stage the establishment considered removing him. However, after judiciously switching him to economics and history, Master H became a star. In any case, what possible use could sciences be to a defence secretary?

● The Queen is to abdicate and Margaret Thatcher will take her place, according to the *Mexico City News*. "Perhaps they know something we don't," remarks the left-wing paper *Militant*, reporting this world exclusive.

Bad judgement

When Clive Ponting's solicitors appointed the relatively unknown Bruce Laughtland QC to defend their client, I was told it was a clever piece of casting: they did not want the Old Bailey trial, which opens on January 28, to be a stage drama. Just as well: Laughtland would not know one if it hit him. As *Cherwell's* drama critic in the early 1950s, the young Laughtland slated a visiting theatrical company for its diabolical production, pathetic casting and lousy performance - "this company has absolutely no commercial future," he wrote. It was the original production *The Mousetrap*.

Not their field

Whitehall intelligence seems to be as sharp as ever. Following his articles on the Falklands in *The Times*, Rod Tyler was tracked down and asked if he knew when the airfield would be completed at Mount Pleasant. Reasonable enough, except the request came from the Royal Fleet Auxiliary.



After the Pershing catastrophe, Neville's convinced this is the nuclear winter

Blow by blow

Poor Peter Tatchell. Spectacularly defeated in the previously safe Labour seat of Bermondsey, he has now failed even to be re-elected by his local ward as a delegate to Bermondsey Labour Party's general committee. Tatchell, who must now relinquish his post as party secretary at February's AGM, would not comment on this latest blow. I'm told, though, that he put many backs up recently by telling the local press he would like to stand again in Bermondsey.

Hard seat

Ken Livingstone could be severely embarrassed if he seeks Brent East Labour Party's nomination now that sitting MP Reg Ffrench might be ditched. The GLC leader may find himself competing with one of his own black female employees. Though Livingstone has cultivated the seat (and the black and female vote) for some years, there has been growing opposition to his candidacy: certain factions feel he has become "respectable", and black local party members object to white male politicians having "free rides" in a constituency with a large black electorate. His preference is said to be for GLC press officer Diane Abbott. Ms Abbott chose her words carefully yesterday. Had she been approached? "You should talk to Brent East." Was she interested? "Anybody who runs against Ken Livingstone would be very foolhardy." Was she foolhardy? No comment.

PHS

Jobs promise that would pay

As the Commons prepares again to debate unemployment, Richard Layard and Richard O'Brien point to a remedy for those left without work over the long term

We now have one and a quarter million people who have been out of work for more than a year. There are no extenuating circumstances: most of these people are not near retirement, only 15 per cent are over 55. The majority are in the prime of their lives, people who would be the backbone of a properly functioning economy.

Such unemployment is wasteful and costly. It is deeply demoralizing for the great majority of the unemployed, who lose their skills and their work habits, and it costs the rest of us a great deal of money.

There are very few benefits to be set against these costs. Unemployment as a whole may help to restrain inflation, but recent research on wage behaviour makes it clear that the long-term unemployed account for little or none of this effect. It is only those who have recently lost their jobs and who are actively looking for work who exert some pressure to keep wages down. People who have been out of work for longer have largely given up hope. A DHSS survey showed that the long-term unemployed spent much less time and money looking for work and made fewer applications for jobs, and are thus largely outside the labour market.

This helps to explain why, despite the high levels of unemployment now prevailing in Europe, inflation shows so little sign of falling further. In Britain in the last three years the number unemployed for less than six months has fallen slowly; the

total increase is accounted for by those unemployed for more than six months. Re-employing the long-term unemployed would do little to rekindle inflation.

Such re-employment must therefore be a priority for the Government. For long-term unemployment, which represents the greatest unnecessary waste of resources in our society, is also a problem on which the Government can have a major impact at little cost to itself.

The Government should offer a job guarantee to those unemployed for a year or more, on the Manpower Services Commission Community Programme, similar to the training guaranteed to school leavers. We cannot offer permanent jobs for all but we can provide people with one year of useful work that will improve their income, give them a sense of purpose and allow them to make a contribution to their communities.

The cost need not be large. Expanding the Community Programme from 130,000 places to about half a million would incur a net extra cost to the Exchequer of about £3bn to £4bn. This would be the most cost-effective way of

creating jobs, as a similar sum spent on general tax cuts would, according to the Treasury model, generate only about 40,000 jobs since so much additional spending resulting from tax cuts leaks into imports or pay for higher-wage jobs.

The Community Programme can be expanded to the size suggested, with some broadening of the criteria for approving projects and relaxation on what is defined as private gain. This would mean negotiations between the MSC and the CBI, the TUC and other interested parties.

The key issues are how much people get paid, and what they produce. At present CP pays the standard hourly rate for the job but the MSC's average weekly wage is limited to £63. Even though this means that many people work part-time places have been easily filled. However, the relatively low pay makes CP more attractive to young single people than to those with families and some relaxation of pay limits will be necessary as an incentive for them.

The other question concerns the type of work offered. At present the programme is decentralized and depends on sponsors. This should

clearly continue, but there is a need for special initiatives that would appeal to the public imagination and meet social needs. The National Economic Development Office recently published a report pointing yet again to the advancing decay in society's infrastructure: the housing stock in some areas is in urgent need of rehabilitation; and there is no limit to the amount of work to be done in the social services.

The increase in places would offer a real administrative challenge, but similar challenge was met when the Youth Training Scheme found more than 450,000 places within a year. The guarantee would (as before) be a Government statement of intent, not a legal obligation, and it should be announced not to provide the extra places within the next two years. There are enough people desperate for work of almost any kind to make the provision of half a million places realistic.

It would clearly be easier to deliver the guarantee if regular employers also increased their demand for the long-term unemployed. The abolition of the employers' national insurance contributions for the first two years after such a person has been recruited would encourage this, and give the long-term unemployed a deserved chance to work again.

Sir Richard O'Brien is a former chairman of the Manpower Services Commission. Richard Layard is Professor of Economics at the London School of Economics.

© Times Newspapers Limited, 1985

Hazhir Teimourian on the growing threat of a fresh famine

Omens of hunger across the Afghan trenches



Mohammad Eshaq: is hunger a military tactic?

there, the Ayazs, have now had another severe drought during the last growing season, and although they are relatively untouched by the war, I fear that up to half million people may be at risk."

Professor Zalmay Khalilzai of Columbia University in New York felt heartened by the recent decision to distribute food. The people

of the US Congress to insist that some of the American aid earmarked for Afghan guerrillas - \$280m over the next 12 months - be spent on food. He was pessimistic, however, about the chances of that money being made available in time to avert the expected famine.

"If we wait until we see pictures of children dying in their thousands

from want of food it will be, by definition, too late," said Dr D'Suza. "The cost of even a token rescue in a country such as Afghanistan, with its logistics and war, would be phenomenal. But if we act now, we might be able to stabilize the situation in some areas, to stop the prices going up sky high, and enable affected areas to import food."

According to Miss Fullerton governments are now trying to bring about change. "The Swedish and Dutch support committees have collected about \$13,000 each, which is almost nothing. All the committees are now trying to persuade their governments to provide more money, but it is difficult. Up to now, governments have given all their money to Afghan refugees in Pakistan, who are relatively well off compared to the desperate people still inside Afghanistan." Britain, she said, had donated £21.6m over the past five years.

It is impossible to send significant amounts of food over the Pakistani border in the provinces of Baluchistan and North-West Frontier. Sandy Gall points out that the convoys could be bombed, and Mr Eshaq believes that hiring a jeep to take a few sacks of grain for about 150 miles from Quetta to Kandahar could cost \$1,000. One solution, according to Dr D'Suza, is to send cash to enable the people at risk to buy food where they can.

A famine could also affect the outcome of the war. The Kabul government and its Soviet allies are suspected of trying to starve people still in the rural areas outside their domain into the towns, where they can be more easily controlled, or to force them to leave the country altogether.

Reports from Kabul speak of the possibility of additional Soviet army divisions arriving in Afghanistan from February onwards. The aim was to guard the borders more effectively and to exert more pressure on the guerrillas, who have killed an estimated 9,000 soldiers of the Soviet invaders over the past five years.

© Times Newspapers Limited, 1985

Phillip Whitehead

Ways to foster a growing need

The most powerful human urge is that to raise a child; the greatest void, when the hope is abandoned. The present arguments over surrogate motherhood for gain, properly identified by the Warnock Report, have added a lurid afterglow to the birth of the child now known as Baby Cotton. We should not be surprised that in an area where above all love and altruism should prevail, for there is a real need, illustrated by the Belgian surrogacy case last week, when the failure to conceive a child of one's own is followed by a failure to adopt one year after year.

The Belgian case was concluded by surrogacy, but within a loving family and not for gain. The sacrifices involved on all sides, if the conception and carrying of the child is done openly, are considerable. Surrogacy obviously cannot help everyone whose love could warm the life of a child but who, with the fall in adoptions, cannot offer that love. So the better-off dream of help from the advance of research into conception, however bizarre, the next just dream, and wake to an empty home.

In this tenth year of the 1975 Children Act, need is so? In spite of the Act, which was intended by those of us who sponsored it to open up adoption and foster care to every child could find a parental home, fewer children are now being adopted than at any time since the war. Changed attitudes mean that more young single mothers wish to raise their child themselves. Better contraception means fewer such children.

A quarter of all adoptions are now of children rather than infants, and they include an increased proportion of the mentally and physically handicapped. Some adoption agencies and local authorities are now less fixated with the white middle-class childless couple under 40. Yet there are still more than 20,000 children in institutions. Many children are brought up in conditions of extreme stress by young single mothers who cannot bear the finality of parting.

Ten years on, some of the modest financial provisions of the Act are still not implemented. There are two areas, both controversial, in which I would like to see greater movement. The first is to widen the general understanding of what makes a good adoptive parent. We should all learn from the successes of agencies such as Parents for Children and Adoption Exchange. I have seen some of the changed lives of a 50-year-old spinster and the Down's Syndrome teenager she was allowed to adopt through Parents for Children last year. To see that boy, blossoming in her love, is to wonder why thousands like him remain in care. The old ideas about adoption are changing.

By Phillip Whitehead, MP for Derby North, 1970-83

Roger Scruton

How London gold helps Moscow

During hard times our grandparents would be visited by non-conformist clergy offering soup and prayer. Ought they to have refused the soup, because of the prayer that had to be swallowed along with it? Only a fanatic would say so.

During the 1960s, a period of severe cultural depression, the CIA would offer relief to those who, because they spoke out against the prevailing nonsense, were threatened with extinction. Because of this charitable gesture, the truth about Soviet disinformation continued to be uttered, and western resolve survived. The CIA asked for nothing in return: no prayers had to be repeated, no doctrine believed, no declaration made. And yet when it was revealed that the CIA had actually spent money on this noble and non-violent purpose, the entire educational establishment threw up its hands in horror and called judgement upon the traitors who had sold their consciences for pieces of silver.

No one suggested that the truth of an argument is affected by the source which pays the author. Nevertheless, so great was the outcry that the Congress of Cultural Freedom in Paris was dissolved, and our own excellent monthly *Encounter* suffered a shock from which it has only recently recovered.

Of course, the Sixties were years of strange fantasies, in which symbols of authority were arbitrarily cast down. But the superstitions of that decade, survive, and among them the extraordinary myth that the CIA is the western equivalent of the KGB. Indeed, while the CIA is repeatedly portrayed as a sinister and ungovernable force, moving mysteriously from sin to sin, the KGB has benefited from a thousand small excuses, becoming at last almost harmless in the liberal imagination.

This process of "moral inversion" (as the philosopher Polanyi called it) has the strange result that in the minds of people not otherwise disposed to madness, the legitimate protection of one's interests seems like an unpardonable crime.

It is true that the CIA has been accused of dreadful things, even of assassinations, and this must inevitably affect our attitude. Unlike the KGB, however, it can be called to account, and cut down to size. Moreover, it does not have, as its principal domestic concern, the liquidation of all opposition to its purposes. On the contrary, opposition flourishes so abundantly that the CIA is now utterly unimpeded, refusing to engage even its most honourable opponents - the support of those publications and institutions which tell the truth about the modern world. The CIA itself is very quick to blame for this posture of unimpeded.

for its operations: depend on a climate of opinion favourable to the presentation of uncomfortable truths. It ought therefore to support those who express such truths.

If the establishment cries out in horror, this is because the establishment requires truth to be comfortable. The KGB is of course unhampered by similar scruples, and provides generous support to those who share its subversive purposes. Such is the effect of moral inversion that this is rarely commented upon, and even more rarely condemned. As a matter of fact, however, a financial connection with the KGB, like a connection with Gaddafi, ought to be vigorously denounced.

For it is a connection with an enemy, and in so far as it reveals a similarity of purpose must inevitably arouse suspicion on those involved in it.

The ethics of financial connection are complex. Consider the British Youth Council, which provides a forum for youth activities, and representation at international gatherings. This is financed largely by the Government, and receives a special grant from the Foreign Office. At the same time, as a good left-wing organization, it has been far more anxious to establish contact with Moscow than with our allies, and is particularly assiduous, during its trips to the Eastern bloc, to avoid contact with the unofficial youth movements. For these, being genuine associations, are subject to vigorous persecution by the party.

Some might say that, because the BYC receives money from the Foreign Office, it must be a government agency and therefore an anti-communist force. The charge is unjust, however. The BYC retains its freedom, and uses the Foreign Office money as it pleases. Indeed, it is against Foreign Office advice that it plans to participate this year in the twelfth World Festival of Youth and Students in Moscow.

This journey, dedicated to "anti-imperialist solidarity, peace, and friendship", is a splendid KGB publicity stunt designed to unite the youth of the world around the communist banner, and to add the shrill voices of western leftists to the chorus of anti-American propaganda. By attending the conference the BYC shows its independence and integrity. Only a fanatic would accuse it of being tainted by the Foreign Office connection.

You do not have to be a fanatic, however, to accuse the Foreign Office of being tainted by its connection with the BYC. For it is reasonable to object to the use of government money in support of a KGB propaganda exercise. Better by far to give the money to *Encounter*.

The author is editor of *The Salisbury Review*.

Michael Binyon looks at the court case which is worrying the western powers

Armour that weighs on Berlin's mind

Berlin AS West Germany braces itself for the painful fortieth anniversary of the Nazi capitulation, the three victorious western allies are facing an unprecedented challenge to their authority in Berlin, where vestiges of the postwar occupation still remain.

The British, French and American protecting powers, as the former conquerors are now officially called, have been watching with concern an attempt by two West Berliners to sue the military authorities. The allies fear that their action, which came to the High Court in London last week, may limit the allies' supreme authority in the western half of the city, paradoxically undermining the occupation status on which West Berlin's freedom has rested since the war.

At the same time a growing resentment by many young West Berliners against the unelected and undemocratic nature of the city's supreme rulers and the vast body of edicts, many now obsolete, they have handed down over the past 39 years has led to worry that the allies' military presence may no longer be so welcome or understood. Talks have now begun with the city senate to see how many of the 6,000 or so occupation laws can safely be scrapped.

Most of these, passed in the early days of the four-power joint military government to stamp out possible resistance to the occupation, are now a dead letter. In any case, the Russians have long ceased to participate in the *Kommendatura*. But West Berliners still theoretically risk execution by carrying arms or prison sentences if they defame the allies. Even possession of a kitchen knife or antique pistol could land them in jail.

Occasionally West Berlin courts are obliged to invoke long-forgotten statutes that appear as ridiculous to the judges as they do to the defendants - as for example, in the case last month when two environmentalists who flew a protest balloon across the wall to East Berlin



Symbols of rebellion in West Berlin

were charged with importing a "weapon of war" into the city.

The West Berlin senate has been under pressure to negotiate changes with the allies. The city government, while recognizing the importance of keeping the 15,000 western troops in Berlin as a visible symbol of allied commitment, is afraid that the antiquated rulings, affecting everything from water supplies to freedom of speech, could expose them to ridicule or hostility.

Mayor Eberhard Diepgen has found full understanding in talks with Mrs Thatcher and other western leaders for the need to discard obsolete edicts. Lawyers from both sides began talks in July, and last week 15 regulations, dealing with such issues as the adoption of German children, the regulation of science and research and the theft of

allied property, were officially dropped.

But the attempt by two residents of Gatow, a suburb in the west of the city, to confront the allies head-on in court has found less official understanding, although evident sympathy from the judges involved.

At issue is their complaint against the construction of a British army firing range on an airfield near their homes. They say that the range, due to open next month, will raise noise levels by up to five times the federal legal limit for the area. Although designed principally for small arms and automatic weapons, it will also be able to accommodate tanks.

Britain disputes the figures, pointing to the 25ft walls that will go up. But it was the British military authorities' intervention forbidding a West Berlin court to hear the

complaint, brought by Herr Gunter Trawnik and Frau Louise Reimelt, that unleashed accusations of high-handedness and led to the present controversy.

In April the plaintiffs took their case to London, where they tried suing the Ministry of Defence. Leave was refused by the High Court, but the judge left open a possible suit against Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney General, or Major-General Bernard Gordon-Lennox, the military commandant in Berlin.

The implication of a successful suit against the latter was clearly alarming to Britain and the other two allies. Not only might it open the floodgates to dozens of other suits, but it could lead in a situation where the law would be different in the three western sectors. It would also tend to greater differences than now exist between the law in West Berlin and that in the Federal Republic. As a result Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe moved to protect Britain's position in the summer by issuing a certificate to the court declaring General Gordon-Lennox an "organ of the German state".

The effect was counterproductive. Sharp questions were asked here about the nature of this theoretical "German state". Politicians asked why Britain wanted to put itself out of reach of the law. Public opinion unanimously backed the plaintiffs.

Their quest to find a court willing to hear their case was almost halted by the ruling last week that they could not sue Sir Michael Havers either. However, a small chink has been left open. The court said on Monday they could challenge Sir Geoffrey's certificate and the claim that the British government was not liable for activities outside the United Kingdom. That appeal will be heard in February.

Paris and Washington - and of course Moscow - will be watching closely to see whether the whole previous edifice on which the allies base their power will be cracked or merely jolted.



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

A QUESTION OF CONFIDENCE

The Government is wholly to blame for the sterling crisis of this weekend and, within the Government, the Prime Minister and the Chancellor must take the lion's share. The foundation stone of a strong currency - any currency - is confidence. It is a basic, gut confidence in this Government which is lacking and has been lacking fundamentally since the 1983 election and in particular since last year's budget.

Since that budget the Government has given no real assurance that it intends to continue with the conquest of inflation and the recovery of the currency. It has settled for a level of inflation of between 4 per cent and 5 per cent. That is double the rate which obtains in West Germany and Japan, and greater than that in the United States in spite of that country's boom. Not surprisingly, in a crisis, the Government's tentative approach to inflation has created uncertainty in the markets which notice, as would any prudent saver or investor, that a 5 per cent rate of inflation will halve your money in 14 years. Is that the kind of uncertainty which the Government thinks can be ignored, or treated in a matter-of-fact way by the Chancellor and Prime Minister? They more often take the opportunity of referring to the Government's "successful" policy of counter-inflation, than in warning us all that we have to bend further to the wheel before Britain can claim to have a sound money policy which justifies faith in the economy.

No matter how many technical factors can be brought into the argument, concerning minimum lending rate, North Sea oil prices, domestic monetary control, the artificial price of the dollar, public sector borrowing and so on, they cannot conceal the fact that a 5 per cent rate of inflation is not sound money. Technical references to the domestic monetary aggregates being under control do not conceal this weakness from the market, even if ministers may

hope it can be obscured from the public.

Why is this underlying confidence lacking? It is lacking for two basic reasons, one which concerns the Prime Minister, the other the Chancellor. The Prime Minister is responsible for the general strategic posture of this Government which, since 1983, has not had the clarity of purpose which distinguished her first administration.

The hallmark of this Government is to consolidate gains achieved in the first administration but not to press on with quite the same determination. Thus public spending is to be maintained at a constant level which means that it will only be proportionately reduced if the economy continues to grow. Thus the burden of overall taxation will remain nearly as high as it was when the Conservatives took power in 1979 - hardly a spectacular achievement after eight years in office. Thus the structure of the economy, with its massive subsidies and a mixture of individual enterprise and collectivist dead-weight which is bound to favour the collectivist element unless that is actively reduced, will remain largely unchanged. Hence the restrictive practices which burden the economy and which, in spite of the sustained if modest growth which we have experienced for the past four years, reveal themselves in the persistently high level of unemployment.

The Prime Minister is thus to blame for creating a strategic climate for this Government in which too much is expected of tax reductions and too little demanded of the opportunity, which will not recur, to break down the rigidities in British economic life - in wages, councils, in rent controls, in public sector monopoly, in private sector subsidy. The Government is left to claim that it is able to manage the mixed economy it inherited better than its predecessors. That condemns it to a defensiveness which makes it especially vulnerable to the

market reactions of this week-end.

The Chancellor, having taken his cue from the Prime Minister, is to blame because he clearly thinks that the arguments in favour of his policies are so obvious that he does not have to explain them to the laity. He has to meet every incoherent uncertainty with ample explanations, and Mr Lawson is not good at explaining himself. If he felt he had so little to say as he appeared to say yesterday on the BBC, he should not have turned up at all. In the Commons he paid lip-service to the fight against inflation and recognized that the Government's resolve was in question. He went on to hope that yesterday's events would serve as a demonstration that ministers would not be seduced by siren voices hoping for some kind of easement in the counter-inflation policy to create jobs funded by the taxpayer.

We all know these arcane arguments are being conducted within the Government in the context of the forthcoming budget. Now that ministers have been taught how uncertain the world is about this Government's ability to achieve more than it has achieved in its economic management, perhaps they will together recognize the need to spell out the assumptions of Government policy more fully and frequently.

The chart published in this paper yesterday showed how the value of the pound had declined steadily since 1981. That decline tells the story of the British disease more effectively than any speech. Much may have been achieved in reducing inflation and achieving some gains in productivity but much more needs to be done. In West Germany commentators have stumbled on that country's third economic miracle, while in contrast the pound is battered over a weekend because ministers have failed to give clear signals to a jittery market. It is at heart a question of confidence.

WHITHER THE BBC: II

In the foreword to the BBC's 1985 Annual Report its Chairman, Mr Stuart Young, argued that the "need for a decision about the pattern of broadcasting in the future is insistent and dominant". He is right. Since the days of the crystal set, broadcasting has come to play an increasingly diverse part in national life. It is now a substitute for many different types of human activity. It provides aural and visual wallpaper in the form of light music and quiz shows. It provides films and sport for those who are also happy to pay for films at the cinema and for sport at the turnstiles. It provides education, complementary to that given in schools and universities, and news and current affairs, in partial competition to newspapers.

As broadcasting becomes broader and deeper in its reach so, the BBC believes, the call on the public purse should be equally broadened and deepened. More purses: higher fees. But even if all of the broadcasters' diverse products can be considered desirable, for the individuals who watch them and for the wider good of the nation as a whole, it does not follow that all of them need to be financed from public funds.

Advertisers can clearly play some part - in many cases a more than adequate part - in generating the revenue to pay for many programmes. Equally well other programmes may be considered to have a high public benefit in addition to their private attractions, and because, for example, more people benefit from the existence of a well-informed electorate than will necessarily watch the news and current affairs programmes, it can be argued that the audience figures will not generate as much revenue as the public good demands.

We need more open discussions about the use of public funds. In a rational allocation of licence revenue news and current affairs would probably be considered among the front runners for a share. Sport and feature films may also perhaps be considered to create some public good beyond mere private gratification. It has been argued, for example, that general benefits accrue from the shared national experience of many people watching the same images on the screen at the same time.

Some analysts would place religious programmes in the same category as news, arguing that your neighbours are less likely to wake you up at night or throw bricks at your windows if they occasionally watch "Songs

of Praise". Others argue religious programmes' case for public money on the grounds of national shared experience. Some even argue a similar case for "Life on Earth" or "The Barchester Chronicles".

The debates about what exactly would have a call on the public purse might be arduous. But acceptance of the principle that licence payers should provide finance last (and preferably not at all) to those programmes which the advertising market would be most likely to generate by itself would be a major step forward.

The BBC prefers to keep up its insistence that its public service lies in the whole of its output, not merely in certain parts. In the final analysis its case for the all-embracing "seamless robe" is reduced to the simple unproven assertion that, without it, programme quality will fall. The economic notion of non-excludable public goods is brought into play. This suggests that, without a licence fee, it is hard to exclude non-payers from enjoying the benefits of broadcasting. Therefore the total investment in broadcasting will be less than the total needs of the audience would dictate: therefore we will get worse chat shows and may get no Shakespeare.

The effects will be still worse, it is said, because of the debasing effect of advertising itself (as if BBC programmes did not already contain much "in-house" advertising already). Because the advertiser cares little whether the audience is watching intently or is half asleep television that is supported by advertising tends towards the lowest common denominator. Advertising would drag down "the best television service in the world" to American levels.

Whatever the force of these arguments, one thing is common to all of them: they are not of the type into which the Government need be shy of intervening. Programme quality is not a primary political issue - and as much nonsense is talked about it as about most things which politicians are paid to judge.

The Government might consider critically the question of whether British television really is better than that of the Americans and the rest of the world. It would find that much is wrong with American television but that it does produce many fine programmes at no public expense. British companies tend to buy American television programmes from the bottom of the US market while American companies tend to buy only the best programmes made in Bri-

tain. As Sir Huw Wheldon, a former Managing Director of BBC Television, reported to the Annan Committee, the British and American creative traditions are very different - the one based on the Hollywood stereotype, the other on the individual creative impulse. The BBC and its independent competitors have set a standard within the British tradition. What reason is there to be certain that finance by advertising will overthrow this?

And who sets the quality standards? The answer is very largely the broadcasters themselves. The professionals give each other awards at international festivals. The steady drumbeat of propaganda is kept up by BBC and ITV to reinforce a legend, a campaign that is plainly very successful. The Government should consider the extent to which one interested group - the broadcasters themselves - have pre-empted so much of the discussion on a matter of public policy.

If it decides that Britain really can justify its claim to the best quality television in the world it should look at the cost of that quality and whether consumers really want to pay it. It is always remarkable how many of those influential people who praise Britain's quality television are happy and proud to say that they themselves never watch television at all. Television is probably best at providing relaxation, undemanding entertainment and information that needs illustration with pictures. It can also provide front stalls at the opera and the cinema. Of course, viewers appreciate free films, free plays and free documentaries as long as they think they really are free. But they do not come without a price - and the heavy tax to pay for them will gradually be seen for what it is. Suppose it were proposed that all cornflake boxes have printed upon them the works of Shakespeare. Would that mean we had the highest quality cornflake boxes in the world, or would it mean that we were rather foolish?

We need a more open - less monolithic - system of broadcasting in which customers can choose what qualities they want from their television screens and radio sets. And the BBC's response to economic pressure should not be to threaten cuts in its prime public functions of news and current affairs but to look to entertainment areas where the standards are of its own making - and can be remade by others outside the BBC, if the money is not there for the corporation.

Progress towards peace in Ulster

From Brigadier W. M. T. Magan
Sir, Lord Lytton (January 8) writes of the Northern Ireland problem: "Without total recognition of permanent partition... between the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland... there will be no progress of note."

This is a counsel of despair, and does not accord with the facts of today, or with the probabilities of the future. Society does not stand still. People and nations are not frozen for all time into immutable attitudes, and certainly should not be thus deliberately frozen.

In 1984 there were at least two instances of "progress of note". In March, for the first time ever, an IRA terrorist was extradited from the Republic and handed over to the Royal Ulster Constabulary.

Six weeks later the New Irish Forum, which had been convened in Dublin a year earlier, issued its report. Everyone who has studied the Irish question knew that neither the Forum, nor anyone else, could devise an immediately acceptable overall constitutional solution to the problem of Ireland; but the Forum report nevertheless contained basic considerations far in advance of the generality of nationalist sentiment during the past 60 years; and positive response from moderate northern Unionist opinion has not been negligible. The Forum produced something on which to build.

Worn-in Europe of 40 years ago has thrown up the EEC, Nato, the European Parliament and other international institutions. Is it too much to hope that another 40 years might likewise see institutional and constitutional arrangements between Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland and mainland Britain that will be much closer and more fruitful than those that we have today?

I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,
W. M. T. MAGAN,
St Michael's House,
Pekham Bush,
Tonbridge,
Kent.
January 9.

National Book League

From Mr Michael Turner
Sir, Mr E. J. Craddock's article (December 31) about the National Book League was unhelpful and misleading. It was unhelpful because it insufficiently stressed the National Book League's *raison d'être* as an independent, non-commercial body dedicated to the furtherance of reading, sponsored by some 50 organizations that range from the Royal Society of Literature to the Centre for Multicultural Education. It was misleading in its tasteless combination of fulsome praise for the director, Mr Martin Goff, with the illogical and unsubstantiated slur that his style is now outmoded. Mr Craddock, to take only one example, has overlooked the significance of Mr Goff's administration of the Booker Prize as a brilliant example of how to promote the cause of books in the 1980s.

The National Book League is not a creature of publishers, although they do contribute a large proportion of its income, and it should never become such. The book trade needs a Book Marketing Council to promote the sale of books, yes - and I write as a former chairman of that organisation - but the general public needs a strong non-partisan force such as the National Book League to speak for readers and reading.

Had your correspondent been more in touch with recent events he would have known that the National Book League's executive, led by its new chairman, Mr Frank Delaney, is currently at work on a reappraisal of the league's function and activities. Mr Craddock's recent disjointed whining places in considerable doubt any authority to which he might be recommending on publishing and books.

Yours faithfully,
M. TURNER
Group Managing Director,
Associated Book Publishers plc,
11 New Peter Lane, EC4,
January 2.

Prescription of drugs

From the President of the Royal College of Physicians
Sir, Your report of the meeting of the Standing Medical Advisory Committee (January 10) may have implied that there was unanimous opposition to the Government's proposals for a limited drug list. The position of the Royal College of Physicians of London remains clear.

We are critical of the mode of presentation and many of the details of the Government's list, but we support the general principle of limited prescribing, subject to several important safeguards:

1. The quality of the drugs on the list must be assured.
2. Drugs should be available to meet the full range of desired therapeutic activity.
3. An appeal mechanism should exist through which a non-listed product might be considered for inclusion.
4. There should be a regular review of the list.

I know that at least two other royal colleges also support the principle underlying the Government's proposals. The combined strength of this support represents a substantial proportion of the medical profession. Any suggestion that there is universal opposition to the Government is clearly misleading.

Yours faithfully,
RAYMOND HOFFENBERG,
President,
Royal College of Physicians,
11 St Andrews Place,
Regent's Park, NW1,
January 11.

Need to spend more on housing stock

From the President of the Royal Institute of British Architects

Sir, Government cuts in construction spending, especially the recent savage and widely criticised cuts in housing, fly in the face not only of the Prime Minister's wish to make us a better housed nation, but also of common-sense economics. They are dictated by inflexible Treasury cash limits drawn up with obsessive and undifferentiated concern for the amount rather than the content of public expenditure.

Meanwhile our housing stock, public buildings and infrastructure are undergoing accelerating degradation. This is well documented by official statistics; and a succession of bodies, most recently NEDO (National Economic Development Office) have calculated it will cost disproportionately more to put right the longer we delay.

Not only are these cuts poor value for money but they inhibit recovery by the private sector, which the Government is pledged to expand. Industry and commerce need an efficient infrastructure and home-owners and would-be home-owners will be severely affected by a further reduction in improvement grants.

More generally, construction offers one of the very few areas of potential growth for full-time male employment. This opportunity is being thrown away. Both Prime Minister and Chancellor have in recent speeches disparaged invest-

ment in construction and promoted the merits of tax cuts instead.

For example, the Prime Minister has recently suggested that capital investment carries a high cost per job and sucks in more imports than tax cuts. This is not supported by the evidence as far as construction is concerned.

Studies by Cambridge Econometrics and the Henley Centre for Forecasting have amongst others demonstrated that public investment in construction is more efficient than tax cuts in providing jobs and creating real wealth.

The Prime Minister quoted £35,000-£55,000 as the cost per job of additional infrastructure spending; this is unrepresentative of most construction work, which is generally labour intensive. Equally his suggestion that the import content of extra capital investment is higher than for additional consumer spending from tax cuts is untrue for construction.

The Government must accept the evidence that spending on modernising and improving the nation's rapidly deteriorating buildings and infrastructure is not only necessary; it represents value for money and generates real jobs. Tax cuts and short-term employment subsidies certainly do nothing of the kind.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL MANSEY, President,
Royal Institute of British Architects,
66 Portland Place, W1.

Peace in the S. Atlantic

From Mr Cyril D. Townsend, MP for Budeath (Conservative)

Sir, Public comments on the Falkland Islands over the Christmas period, from both the United Kingdom and the Argentine Republic, have disappointed those in both countries who seek a sensible way out of the present depressing and disastrous deadlock. It appears all too easy to forget the guns stopped firing in the South Atlantic over two and a half years ago, and too hard to remember that Britain, the Argentine and the Falkland Islands are all suffering badly from the lack of any diplomatic or commercial links between the former combatants.

For our country there is the gross distortion of our defence policy, and obvious diplomatic and commercial problems. Is it really wise to be spending £40 per taxpayer per year on some 350 families in the Falkland Islands, when we are having to cut our diplomatic representation abroad and reduce the funding of both the superb BBC external service and the British Council?

For the civilian government in the Argentine tension in the South

Atlantic increases both the cost and the importance of the military and makes it harder to tackle their huge international debts.

For the Falkland Islanders the two most pressing problems are the increasing international over-fishing of the seas around them and the expensive and time-consuming life-line over 8,000 miles of ocean to the United Kingdom.

Surely the way forward lies in simultaneous unilateral declarations, without negotiations and without any strings? The Argentine could formally declare all hostilities terminated and Britain could remove the 150-mile protection zone. There is also a need for renewed contact at all levels.

Britain is not expected to make concessions which would regard as being against our principles and interests. Let us in 1985 pursue with vigour the normalisation of our relations with the Argentine. Let us, above all, have some vision of the prospects that could await us all in a peaceful South Atlantic.

Yours faithfully,
CYRIL D. TOWNSEND,
House of Commons,
January 1.

Where railways score

From Dr Francis Blacklay

Sir, In the argument about the axle weight of heavy lorries, two false assumptions are made: firstly, that the wheels run on the surface of the road and, secondly, that the road surface is smooth.

In this attractive market town passing lorries frequently have at least one wheel on the pavement and, secondly, scarcely a month goes by without an excavation in the road leaving an irregular patch. No matter the axle weight, three axles give rise to six points instead of four and it is the bumps and not the axle weight that do the damage to our historic houses and other buildings.

The railways manage things better, for their wheels have flanges to keep them on the track and the magisterial bench drivers Tom, Dick and Harry from interfering with the tracks' regularity and smoothness. They have other advantages for the passenger as well as for freight.

I well remember a morning several years ago when dense fog cloaked all England and I arrived at Euston fresh, well fed, my papers read and some business done and one minute early, when several of my could-have-been fellow travellers were mangled corpses on the motorway.

Yours faithfully,
FRANCIS W. BLACKLAY,
116 Hospital Street,
Nantwich,
Cheshire,
December 31.

Church militant

From Captain J. G. McColl

Sir, In your Court & Social column of today (January 10) the Queen Mother is mentioned as Colonel-in-Chief, *inter alia*, the Royal Anglican Regiment.

Would one assume the regimental march of its regiment to be "Onward Christian Soldiers"?

Yours etc.
J. G. MCCOLL,
The Life Guards,
Combermere Barracks,
Windsor, Berkshire,
January 10.

Sale of Wyth Farm

From Mr W. G. Jewers

Sir, It is misleading to state (report, January 8) that the proceeds of the sale of the Wyth Farm oil field went to "its former owners rather than into the Exchequer". The Government will receive the whole of the proceeds of the sale, in one way or another.

Confusion can be caused by the fact that, until liability to corporation tax is determined, the proceeds of the sale of British Gas's interest in the field stand to the British Gas Corporation's credit in a non-interest-bearing account lodged with the Treasury.

British Gas, representing 16 million gas customers, receive no benefit whatsoever.

Yours faithfully,
W. G. JEWERS, Managing Director,
Finance,
British Gas Corporation,
Riverside House,
152 Grosvenor Road, SW1.

ON THIS DAY

JANUARY 15, 1985

The remains of Anne Mowbray were reinterred in Westminster Abbey on May 31, 1965. The Queen was represented at the ceremony which was conducted by the Dean of Westminster, and among those present were Lord and Lady Mowbray. It had been established that the Duchess of York had died a natural death; she now lies a few feet from her child husband Richard Duke of York.

STEPNEY COFFIN CONTAINS A DUCHESS OF YORK

A small lead coffin (found on a building site in Stepney) in December 11, has been established by experts at the London Museum as almost certainly containing the remains of Anne Mowbray, Duchess of York. She was the child bride of Richard Duke of York, one of the princes believed to have been murdered in the Tower of London in 1483 or 1485.

Anne Mowbray (1472-1481) was married in great splendour in St Stephen's Chapel Westminster, when she was just over five years old, to Richard, second son of King Edward IV. Her betrothal was 5½ at the time of the marriage.

This important and fascinating discovery has involved legal, scientific, historical, medical and ecclesiastical experts in prolonged investigations during the past months and it is expected that the programme of research will probably continue for another six months.

LATIN INSCRIPTION
The coffin has been opened, in the instruction of the coroner and with the approval of the Dean and Chapter of Westminster. Medical experts have confirmed that the human remains inside are those of a child whose age corresponds to the age of Anne Mowbray, who was eight years 11 months at the time of her death.

Announcing these results in an interim report yesterday, the London Museum said that it was only after careful laboratory treatment of a largely obscured leaden inscription attached to the coffin that the importance of the discovery was realised.

This inscription, translated from the Latin, read: "Here lies Anne, Duchess of York; daughter and heir of John, formerly Duke of Norfolk, Earl of Arundel, Earl of Nottingham, Earl of Warrure, Marshal of England, and Lord of Mowbray, Segrave and Gower; the late wife of Richard, Duke of York; the second most illustrious prince of Edward the Fourth, King of England, France and Lord of Ireland, who died at Greenwich on the nineteenth day of November in the year of Our Lord 1481 and in the twenty-first year of the reign of the said Lord King."

One of the problems still to be unravelled is how and at what date the coffin arrived in Stepney, since Anne Mowbray was buried with great ceremony in Westminster Abbey, in the Chapel of St Edmund. The coffin was found alone in a sealed vault about 11ft below ground. The vault had chalk and brick walls and an arched roof largely of brick and it lay within the site of a medieval nunnery belonging to the order of St Clare.

This was known as the Abbey of the Minors or the Minors which stood just outside the city wall and close to the Tower of London. The building site was near St Clare Street...

70 SPECIALISTS
Inside the coffin were found the skull covered with matted hair, probably more than 100 years old, the chest, clear of bones, and the lower part of the coffin containing light brown silk through which protruded bones. The remains of a wrapping lay in fragments over parts of the body and the microscope has shown the threads to be linen.

A list of 70 specialists was compiled and the examination began with each piece of soil recorded geographically and preserved in a jar. Under a 20-power dissecting microscope every fragment was examined and seeds, insect cases, finger nails and head hairs were found near the foot. Questions for the specialists had to be carefully and quickly formulated because of the danger of the finds deteriorating.

The bones are to be examined by radiologists, anatomists, osteologists and dentists and the medical history ascertained as far as possible, although it is expected that little will be discovered of this.

Today, January 15, is the anniversary of the marriage of the children, which took place after protracted negotiations between the widows of the Duke of Norfolk and Edward IV whose purpose was to obtain the Mowbray inheritance.

Calorie count

From Mr Michael Kipps

Sir, In her letter (January 5) Mrs Rowland enquired about the food value of one pint of Mrs Beeton's "Benedictine Soup".

I calculate that this soup would provide only 90 kilocalories of energy per pint, seven grams of protein (a tenth of the recommended daily amount for adults), and small quantities of vitamins and minerals.

This soup would not keep a man or a woman in good health if this was all they were consuming. For example, a sedentary male has a daily recommended amount of food energy of some 2,400 kilocalories.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL KIPPS,
(Senior Lecturer in Food Science),
University of Surrey,
Department of Hotel, Catering and Tourism Management,
Guildford,
Surrey.

Red alert

From Lieutenant Colonel G. H. Peebles

Sir, The defence shake-up to which your front-page article (January 2) referred has had interesting side-effects. A friend telephoned the Ministry of Defence just before Christmas and, on being connected, asked to whom he was speaking.

"Actually, I'm in a lift" was the reply "I got into this lift and suddenly the emergency telephone rang, so I picked it up and it was you".

My friend, a retired officer, who was ringing from Aberdeen, retired once more, duly shaken.

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,
GAVIN PEEBLES,
53 Coldstream Gardens,
West Hill, SW18.

THE ARTS

شهر احده الالهي



Galleries: John Russell Taylor examines, and challenges, received wisdom about Marc Chagall in light of the major exhibition at the Royal Academy

Buried alive in his own rich garden?

Of course we all know that Chagall is a great painter: he must be, he has been around being great for so long. Or at any rate he has been around for so long, and on his degree, because the great old man of painting - and finally, perhaps by default, the greatest living painter. (Well, who else would you suggest? Dali? Balthus? Bacon?) All the same, in the light of much of his work since 1940 - or, some might say, since 1920 - we do badly need reminding just why, how and when he was really great. This important function, it must be said right away, the Royal Academy's comprehensive and splendid Chagall show (until March 31) fulfils immaculately.

It is, first of all, an extremely serious show. That is to say it takes its subject with becoming seriousness, which, with Chagall's constant tendency to lapse into prettiness and whimsy, it would be very easy not to do. The catalogue (at £7.90) does the painter proud, treating him like an old master with not only a large number of excellent colour reproductions but also the deployment on his behalf of a lot of elaborate and detailed scholarship. And the show itself is laid out with all the flair the Academy usually brings to these things, but at the same time soberly, giving each work room to breathe, and so time to make its maximum effect.

The only complaint I can see against the whole enterprise are that there is minimal representation of Chagall's enormous output of prints (though supplementation is at hand in this area with a show devoted exclusively to these at the Institut Français, Chagall et la Bible, until February 31, and that there is no real documentation, even photographic, of the monumental projects which much

occupied Chagall in the Seventies, such as the ceiling of the Paris Opera and the mosaic wall in Chicago sponsored by this show's chief sponsor, the First National Bank of Chicago.

Small complaints, however, in relation to the organizers' achievement in giving us a chance to see Chagall plain and about as near whole as possible. But that leaves the big question up to us: with all the evidence before us, what, exactly, do we make of Chagall's lifetime achievement? And, make no mistake, it is a real lifetime that we are speaking of - indeed, nearly two average working lives, when you consider that the first painting in the show was made almost 80 years ago, in 1907, and the most recent only last year, when the painter was 87. (Incidentally, the two 1984 paintings are amazingly firm and confident - whatever one may think of later Chagall, how many painters have been painting so well in their late nineties; how many, indeed, have been painting at all?)

It is a real problem: I do not suppose anyone who cares at all about art would argue with the quality of the first two rooms, which take us from Russia to Paris, back to Russia, to Berlin and finally to 1923 to Paris again. At this period Chagall is, strictly speaking, incomparable. Though he studied under such unlikely teachers as Roerich, Bakst and Dobuzhinsky, from the very beginning his work does not look like that of anyone else - and certainly not like that of his younger Russo-Jewish contemporaries such as Soutine and Kékouline. His earliest paintings even, in their weird proportions and disregard for conventional perspective, as well as their silky subject-

matter, look much more like the work of a naïf painter.

But, if Chagall was and remained an innocent, that innocence must have been carefully guarded and preserved. And, in fact, we can see from a succession of portraits, of himself in 1909 and of his sisters, Maria and Ania, around the same time, that if he wanted to paint in an academically acceptable fashion he was perfectly capable of doing so. Even his earliest early pictures are weird only when taken as a whole; but by his time he made a solid and expected sense, and the oddity of vision and style lies almost entirely in the relation of parts. Already we find the peasant fiddlers, the flying animals, the Jewish weddings and the volatile bouquets, but at this point his career, everything is held together, however improbable the juxtapositions, by an electric tension. The oddity of these pictures is also ensured by the rather sombre yet covertly glowing colour schemes in which many of them are painted: Chagall's colours can often take us by surprise, and yet after the event we never question their inevitability.

Though in most of these pictures Chagall seems to be developing his own private world, and finding the repertoire of motifs which is to carry him through the rest of his life, he is evidently not wholly unconscious of what is going on in the world or the arts around him. When he goes to Paris first, for example, he is immediately aware of the Cubist revolution then in progress, and shows that this is so in *Half Past Three (The Poet)* of 1911. But it is hardly a solemn dissection of pictorial space as usual, Chagall's humour suggests that this is a rather discomfited moment in the

poet's day (something to do with the bottle at his elbow, perhaps), and the Cubist distortions, not to mention the head on upside-down, imply not so much a new way of rendering space as a feeling that space as well as time is out of joint. Even the astonishing *Homage to Apollinaire*, begun the same year, with its central two-headed hermaphrodite figure against a segmented Delaunayish disc, uses ideas which were in the air of Paris at the time and in the realization of Chagall's own personal Zohar-derived imagery.

In any case, the Cubist influence is only temporary; by 1917, when it occurs in the background of that extraordinary painting *Bella with a White Collar*, in which the artist's wife, gigantic, looks down on a tiny landscape with a family scene which seems in some way to be under her protection, the Cubist moment has almost completely passed. Early in the Twenties - the period, oddly, least represented in the show - we come on to the first fully characteristic examples of mature Chagall: sometimes strongly painted landscapes of a relatively conventional type, like *The Window* (1924) or *The Wedding*, which fruit of his first visit to Palestine in 1931, but more usually the familiar flights into rabbiical fantasy.

Occasionally, even in the early Thirties, we get a powerfully conceived and carried-out composition like *Solitude*, in which the cow with the violin and the angel in the sky are firmly ignored by the gloomy Jew with the Torah scroll. But, in general, the work shows a relaxation which is seldom for the good: the imagery becomes unquestioningly repetitious, and, with the advent of Dufy-colour towards the end of the decade, the decline of interest is unmistakable.

Later still, it seems to need the presentation of some new technical challenge, like that of the stained-glass window, to fire up Chagall's real creative faculties, and these decisions seem adventitious rather than sought. Of course, this is the period of the coloured Bible lithographs at the Institut Français, and the overwhelming, inescapable popularity of Chagall. On this evidence one cannot but conclude that the works in question have been popular largely because they were undemanding, pretty, easy to take - and superficial. Perfectly professional, of course, and occasionally with a flash of the old fire, as in the large *Full of Tears* of 1975, which makes one wonder why he had not found this made-to-measure subject from classical mythology before. But, by and large, it is on the strength of the pre-1920 works that one still persists in thinking of Chagall as a great painter rather than merely a popular one.

Need it have been so? Possibly the artist who sets so assiduously, and so early, about cultivating his own garden is inevitably, sooner or later, going to find himself buried alive in it. But there is another, at first sight improbable, object of comparison: Beckmann, only three years older than Chagall, had a surprising number of things in common with him, but especially his virtual immunity from passing fashions after he had truly found himself, and the body of his work, esoteric symbolism and imagery to which he reverted again and again throughout his career. And yet one never feels that Beckmann is repetitious, and one certainly never feels that Beckmann is irrelevant to the world around him, or it to him. Maybe that is the difference between a great painter and a good painter who sometimes touches greatness.

Opera

Rigoletto Coliseum

When Jonathan Miller's Mafia-style production of *Rigoletto* was new there were doubts expressed, though not on this page, about whether so bold a reconstruction could survive repeat acquaintance. Well, it can. Only two years have passed, but already the production has been seen on both sides of the Atlantic with various casts. It returns to London now, however, with the same singers in the two principal male roles as originally: John Rawnley and Arthur Davies.

In the title role Mr Rawnley remains thoroughly outstanding. One challenge of so real a production is that it demands characters who are real to the same degree. Mr Rawnley lives up to that challenge magnificently. His deformity he carries with conviction; so too, his emotional vulnerability, which is the avenue to his full-hearted expression of rage, love and disgust. And yet there is nothing tastelessly pathetic about his performance.

Whether he is playing the fool, coldly hiring an assassin or expressing his tenderness for his daughter, the feeling is made to emerge from the music, and even the unlikeness dramatic touch is part of a musical line. The result is that he, as a singer, almost disappears. While he is singing, one simply cannot imagine that more could be drawn from the part, or indeed

that it could be done in any other way: he becomes Rigoletto. One other challenge of the Miller production, and again Mr Rawnley answers it fully, is that in an atmosphere so tangibly true to cinematic life, it not to the real thing, one wants to hear every word. Mr Davies, too, responds admirably. Perhaps he is too amorous and amiable to be credible as a gang boss, but he sings with magnificent freedom and his tone is a fresh delight. As John Higgins intimated from the company's American tour, he has grown in confidence and stature while playing the role.

Valerie Masterson's Gilda was seen in the United States but is new to London, and very welcome. If there were some failure of control in the first act, the rest showed how well she is suited in tone and technique to this part, the notes springing with quivering clarity and no sign of effort. In the quartet she was heard ringing at the top of the ensemble while hardly seeming to open her mouth. Such dexterity and precision are to be heard too from the pit. The excellent John Mauceri has evidently profited from the recent scholarly edition in his reconsiderations of tempo: several passages are steadier than usual, bringing a gain in grace and sometimes also in dramatic power. With Mr Mauceri the two very often go together.

Paul Griffiths

Music and Machines

Singcircle Barbican/Radio 3

Anyone, cynics still say, could have done it. But Stockhausen did do it. What other composer would have had the same courage, not to say audacity? Who else would be bold enough apparently to disown so completely his heritage, casting aside all the sophisticated complexities of postwar German music (including, it seemed, the processes developed in his own works of the Sixties) and instead base a large-scale composition on a simple harmonic series using just six amplified voices as the performing medium?

Of course it is not that simple. *Singcircle*, heard in Saturday's concert in the "Music and Machines" series, is a highly organized piece to pantheism, to the living world, to love and to the sex act. As such it stands as a product of the prevalent liberalism of the Sixties.

In suspending all feeling of time and motion, however, *Singcircle* does not merely seek a world of mindless meditation. Through the very limitation of its basic musical material it demands, as in a different way does the large-scale later orchestral work *Inori*, that we teach ourselves to listen anew, aware for once that timbre is the result of a subtle mixture of overtones and that the very act of making music in ensemble is a matter of

spontaneous interaction and mutual sensitivity.

Stockhausen charts the progress of his work by the interpretation of four erotic poems, written by himself, some of which were rather boldly recited here in English, so causing ripples of restrained but embarrassed titillation around the hall. Their presence heightens the inspiration which really lies behind *Singcircle* - the composer's deep domestic bliss shortly after the birth of his son Simon, in 1965.

Singcircle's long acquaintance with the work has created a version easily identifiable as theirs, as much by its little touches of absurd humour in delivery as by anything else. It is also one that is tremendously flexible in scale. Compare, for example, the hour it took the same ensemble to perform the work at the Proms a few years ago with this reading, which lasted around 95 minutes, possibly a new record. But the length of this performance only emphasized the depth of the exploration of relationships between each section and each singer, and throughout one was entranced without ever being hypnotized into an unthinking state.

The large and predominantly young audience reacted with understandable rapture. Concert organizers, as well as those who still seek to devalue the worth of such pathfinding music, take note.

Stephen Pettitt

Television

Blessed relief from unwanted advice

In these days of a falling birthrate procreation is a once-or-twice-in-a-lifetime luxury; add this fact to the exponential growth of information about perinatal matters and a baby becomes an alarming little alien radiating potential guilt, which the prudent approach only with massive stocks of advice.

As most advice given to parents is ineffective against infant-related anxiety, it was an immense relief to find that Baby, Baby (Channel 4), a new series about babies aimed at those who are on average 20 years or less away from their own infancy, contained almost no advice. True, the media midwife Sheila Ferguson, who weighs 17st 4lb by the time her twins were born, while Suzi Quatro admitted she felt embarrassed at gaining a mere 15lb in her pregnancy. There were problems among this glamorous bunch - a miscarriage, an unwanted pregnancy, infertility - but the programme, to its eternal credit, presented them without a trace of the parental

There were no well-scrubbed young persons in jeans chatting patronizingly about "kids" and no suave obstetricians lecturing mothers en masse about pre-conceptual nutrition and carpal tunnel syndrome. Instead the presenters, Paula Yates and Joels Holland, interviewed a selection of young celebrities about their pregnancies. The tone of the assembled anecdotes was miraculously fresh and unsentimental.

The singer Sheila Ferguson, of the Three Degrees, owned to weighing 17st 4lb by the time her twins were born, while Suzi Quatro admitted she felt embarrassed at gaining a mere 15lb in her pregnancy. There were problems among this glamorous bunch - a miscarriage, an unwanted pregnancy, infertility - but the programme, to its eternal credit, presented them without a trace of the parental

earnestness which is the curse of many lesser television forums. Paula Yates in person is a wit fit to set the Algonquin table on a roar; on television she seldom seems as entertaining as she is, partly because she usually appears in programmes related to rock sub-culture in which street-credibility (ie, mumbling) is considered important. *Baby, Baby* included a poem from the comedian Norman Lovett in which he referred to his mother's womb as "my first bed in a way, really". In this company it is hard to sparkle, which is sad for the sake of Paula Yates and of her audience.

Clotheslines (Channel 4) was an American-made film of appealing modesty which filled the screen with the soothing sight of blowing laundry while the women who had washed it talked around the task. In these days of tumble-driers it is almost a time capsule; a niche in the linen cupboard of social history will go to the lady who explained that she stored her clean sheets with satin ribbons tied around them, because she hated the chore of washing them but knew her friends would inspect her work on the fly.

Celia Brayfield

Concert

Sinfonietta/Bernas EMI, Abbey Road

I would have thought that one of the most difficult compositional acts must be to write a pointless, purposeful silence. Within a framework where expectation is clear, like a Haydn sonata movement, a silence can be electrifying; elsewhere, how to avoid making it sound like a mere absence? Simon Holt has succeeded in writing a quite marvellous silence at the centre of his *Mirror Maze* (1981), which was given its first professional performance by the London Sinfonietta on Sunday night.

From the beginning of the 12-minute piece - noise, pause, activity - the dancing, jagged lines are always busy, quite shrill, with the sounds shifting in and out of the pairs of wind instruments that dominate the scoring (there are no strings except for a solitary double bass, plus percussion). The rise and fall of these sharp, crystalline sounds suddenly condenses into an alto flute solo with the faintest of percussion chiming behind; then just an occasional gleam from the percussion broken by pauses leads to a full ten seconds' silence, and it feels as if the whole weight of the piece has collapsed into that space. From a single flute note the bubbling sounds get going again, more unaimingly now,

until they peter out in a mirror-image of the beginning.

This performance was part of the SPNPM's extremely valuable scheme by which works are rehearsed, discussed and (with the dispensation of the Musicians' Union) recorded for deposit at the British Music Information Centre. It is a scheme that could well be extended, for it is high time we remedied the lack of any reasonably comprehensive archive of British contemporary music.

It works well as a public event too, especially if, as here, the works have already been rehearsed and the evening can be based around performances. The conductor, Richard Bernas, questioned the composers gently and demonstrated one or two points, but there was no discussion. Mr Bernas's conducting, however, showed an admirable combination of gentleness with firmness.

The evening's other work, *Troupe-Joel* (1982), by David Sawyer, was an imaginative attempt to picture a shifting image which can never be quite pinned down with layered writing for different groups creating a different rates of activity. It did not quite sustain a sense of direction, but its fluency was most impressive; well worth hearing at least twice.

Nicholas Kenyon

In the 'Year of Animation', Brian Sibley meets the British expert John Halas

The vital momentum of our time



John Halas: "I want to prove that animation is an exciting and dynamic art-form"

John Halas looks up from his drawing-board where, with paper and celluloid, he is creating the illusion of Leonardo da Vinci drawing *The Virgin and Child*. "They call me the pope of the animation industry," he says. The pope? An apostle, one for at 72 the veteran animator of some 2,000 cartoon films is embarking on a crusade. "My aim," he explains, "is to show people that animation is the most vital art momentum of our age."

To help convert the world to the power and potentiality of animation, 1985 has been designated (with the agreement of the United Nations Year of Animation, marking as it does two major anniversaries within the industry. It is 100 years since Emile Reynaud of France gave the first public demonstration of his projected Praxinoscope, a hand-cranked machine that gave still pictures an illusion of life. This year also sees the twenty-fifth anniversary of the formation of ASIFA (Association Internationale du Film d'Animation), of which Halas is president.

"I want to change people's concept of animation; show that it is much more than just a form of entertainment for children," he raises his voice a little to be heard above the shrill cries and laughter of the pupils of St Clement Dane's Primary School, whose playground he overlooks. "I want to prove that animation is now an adult medium and an exciting and dynamic art-form."

It is a hard task that he has set himself. Thirty years ago, together with his wife Joy Batchelor, Halas made an animated film version of George Orwell's *Animal Farm* and demonstrated that cartoons have the potential for serious stuff. Yet to most people today, animation still means little more than the comic capers of Tom and Jerry, Bugs Bunny and Mickey Mouse. Even Walt Disney is remembered not so much for the artistic and technical achievements of such films as *Snow White* and *Pink Panther* as for their sentiment and comedy.

"Disney passed away 18 years ago, and with him," says Halas, "passed an era in animation. It has taken the intervening years for the animation industry to recover, not only from the shock of his death but from the stylistic domination of his era. Today, unused though their efforts may be, some 60,000 animators are at work around the world. It is a business with a financial turnover of \$596m. a year. 'We are as big as the live-action film industry, but nobody knows about it.'"

One reason for this lack of recognition is that comparatively little animation is now made for theatrical release. Feature-length cartoons are few and far between (if Disney's *The Black Cauldron* appears on schedule in 1985, it will be the studio's first feature in four years); and very few short subjects are now being shot. "The cinema industry," explains Halas, "is now structured in such a way as to handle the

\$300m. a year. But animation is also being used in many other areas: for promotional and educational films, title sequences, video and computer graphics and special effects used to enhance live-action movies like *Star Wars*, *Tron* and the recently released *Ghostbusters*.

So, is the future role of animation to be simply that of an advertising medium or an ancillary effects service to the film industry? Halas thinks not. "Of course it will continue to assist major projects like *Jedi* for many years to come, just as it will go on selling soap and cornflakes, but it won't stop the animator fulfilling his true role as storyteller or from using animation to create illusions that cannot possibly be created by live-action film-makers."

The recent success of British animators, with such series as *Henry's Cat*, *Superted* and the model-animated *Wind in the Willows*, suggests that his assessment is correct. Halas himself is currently attempting to weld art and animation with *The Great Misters*, a major project comprising 20 animated films on the life and work of some of the world's great artists. Botticelli is complete. Da Vinci and Lautrec are in progress, and others on Michelangelo, Rembrandt, Turner, Picasso and Bosch will follow.

"The trouble is," says Halas, "animation receives hardly any attention from either art or film critics, who seem unable to appreciate what is going on in the industry." It is a state of affairs which, he hopes, the Year of Animation will help to correct.

In Britain, the National Film Theatre will run a regular series of animation events, beginning on January 24 with a programme celebrating the best of British animation from 1899 to 1974.

In the hope of encouraging young animators, ASIFA, in association with the United Nations and BBC Television, is launching an international film contest. It is open to all young people (aged 16-25), and entrants are invited to make an original film using any technique from traditional to electronic animation. The theme for the contest is to encourage an awareness of man's creative energies and to discourage their further abuse and destructiveness.

Standard Chartered Bank

announces that on and after 14th January 1985 its Base Rate for lending is being increased from 10½% to 12% p.a.

The interest rate payable on deposit accounts subject to seven days notice of withdrawal will be increased from 7½% to 9% p.a. The interest rate payable on High Interest deposit accounts subject to twenty one days notice of withdrawal will be increased from 8½% to 10% p.a.

Standard Chartered

THE TIMES Portfolio

From your Portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	Year price or loss
1	Rich Laval	
2	Park Foods	
3	Beige	
4	Mathews (Bernard)	
5	Lee (John J)	
6	Brooke Road	
7	Carry Milling	
8	Bassett Foods	
9	Hutches	
10	Asco Industries A-D	
11	Black Arrow	
12	Conat	
13	Brown (John)	
14	Bayes (Charles)	
15	Ashley	
16	Concentric	
17	Davy	
18	Diamond Sylls	
19	Scide	
20	Chrys Bros	
21	Falcon	
22	Gomme	
23	Pittwater	
24	Hastings	
25	Crimpan	
26	Eller (B)	
27	Halma	
28	Haden	
29	Cassidy (A)	
30	Harris (Philip)	
31	DRAPERY AND STORES	
32	Warne & Gilson	
33	Foster Bros	
34	S & U Stores	
35	Brenner	
36	Brown (N)	
37	Oliver (G)	
38	Rentak	
39	Goldsmith Op	
40	Prody (Alfred)	
41	Frederick (D)	

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £20,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

Claimants should ring 0254-53272

BRITISH FUNDS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

FINTECH FIVE YEARS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

UNLISTED

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDEXED

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

BREWERIES

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

BANKS DISCOUNT HP

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

ELECTRICALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Shares and gilts tumble

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings, Began Jan 14, Dealings End, Jan 25, Contango Day, Jan 28, Settlement Day, Feb 4.
\$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

1984/85 High Low	Company	Price	Chg %	Yld %	P/E
100.00	Aluminium	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0
100.00	Asco Industries	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0
100.00	Black Arrow	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0
100.00	Brooke Road	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0
100.00	Carry Milling	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0
100.00	Cassidy (A)	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0
100.00	Chrys Bros	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0
100.00	Conat	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0
100.00	Davy	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0
100.00	Diamond Sylls	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0
100.00	Eller (B)	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0
100.00	Falcon	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0
100.00	Gomme	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0
100.00	Haden	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0
100.00	Halma	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0
100.00	Harris (Philip)	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0
100.00	Hutches	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0
100.00	Lee (John J)	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0
100.00	Mathews (Bernard)	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0
100.00	Park Foods	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0
100.00	Rich Laval	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0

BUILDING AND ROADS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

FINANCE AND LAND

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

FOODS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

CINEMAS AND TV

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

DRAPERY AND STORES

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS A-D

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

HOTELS AND CATERERS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS E-K

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS L-R

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS S-Z

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

1984/85 High Low	Company	Price	Chg %	Yld %	P/E
100.00	Aluminium	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0
100.00	Asco Industries	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0
100.00	Black Arrow	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0
100.00	Brooke Road	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0
100.00	Carry Milling	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0
100.00	Cassidy (A)	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0
100.00	Chrys Bros	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0
100.00	Conat	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0
100.00	Davy	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0
100.00	Diamond Sylls	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0
100.00	Eller (B)	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0
100.00	Falcon	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0
100.00	Gomme	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0
100.00	Haden	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0
100.00	Halma	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0
100.00	Harris (Philip)	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0
100.00	Hutches	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0
100.00	Lee (John J)	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0
100.00	Mathews (Bernard)	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0
100.00	Park Foods	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0
100.00	Rich Laval	100.00	0.0	10.0	10.0

BUILDING AND ROADS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

FINANCE AND LAND

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

FOODS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

CINEMAS AND TV

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

DRAPERY AND STORES

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS A-D

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

HOTELS AND CATERERS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS E-K

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS L-R

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS S-Z

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

INDUSTRIALS

1984/85 High Low Stock Price Chg % Yld % Div %

Part one of a Times investigation into who is behind the continuing million-pound property deals in London

For sale: jewels in the capital's crown

WHO OWNS LONDON?
The Church, the Crown, the landed estates and the City
livery companies own vast areas of London.
But overseas interests are acquiring its outstanding buildings. Report by Judith Huntley and Christopher Warman

Horror stories hit the headlines 10 years ago that London was being "invaded" by Arabs snapping up property as fast as they could go. London was certainly a favourite resting-home for the money spread around after oil prices quadrupled; the cost of London penthouses soared; clubs and restaurants were in demand; shares were bought to property companies. And inflation at around 15 per cent made property an attractive proposition.

In 1976, it was estimated that Arabs owned 10,000 flats in London and were spending £300 million a year in Britain. The sale of the Dorchester hotel in Park Lane, for £29 million to a Saudi consortium, hit the headlines; it later passed to Lebanese, and then American owners. A similar price was paid for the Park Tower Hotel in Knightsbridge.

The Savoy Group, which owned Claridges, the Savoy, the Berkeley and the Connaught, was the subject of an abortive bid from Arab interests. To top quality investment in London, property was much in demand. The Abu Dhabi investment board, for example, bought a £36 million interest in Commercial Union Assurance's City headquarters.

Perhaps the most spectacular deal was the Kuwaiti royal family's purchase of the St Martin's Property Corporation for £107 million, equivalent to almost a week's oil revenues. In 1974, it made the Kuwait Investment Office one of the highest landholders in Britain, with valuable London holdings. At the time St Martin's had 2 million sq ft of offices in London, including Winchester House in the City. The building is now for sale, with two other office blocks with a total price tag of £95 million.

Much of the cash flowing from Kuwait oil is channelled through the Kuwait Investment Office, which was set up in London in the 1950s. At the time of the Arab "invasion" the Office dealt with the 40 per cent of oil revenues paid in sterling and estimated that £100 million a year was passing through its books.

Some of this money was invested in property company shares, and still is. The Office likes to keep its business close to its chest, however, and it is extremely difficult to find out exactly how much it has invested in London property. It has a scattering of property company investments at the notifiable 5 per cent level, and may have even more that are unknown.

The Office has been buying and selling property shares in the last few years. It sold some property holdings in 1983 and waited to offload its stake in Great Portland Estates and Stock Conversion and Investment Trust; but at the end of last year it increased to 7.2 per cent its stake in Trafalgar House, the hotel, engineering and property group. All these companies have significant

London property investments in their portfolios. But perhaps the most visible expression of the wealth of the Kuwaiti Royal family lies on the riverside next to London Bridge. St Martin's Property Corporation is developing a half-mile long site from London Bridge to Tower Bridge with a £350 million scheme to include 2 million sq ft of offices, a private hospital, homes and shopping. The £20 million first phase, next to London Bridge, is already under way.

In the City of London, foreign companies are investing millions in buying property, in some cases occupying part of the building and sub-letting the rest. The Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company has sold its building in Leadenhall Street to the Union Bank of Switzerland for £71 million; and American Express paid £30 million for Peninsular House. Two French companies recently bought offices in the heart of the City: the Societe Generale paid £30 million for 60 Gracechurch Street, and Banque Paribas bought 66 Lombard Street, close to the Bank of England, for £18 million.

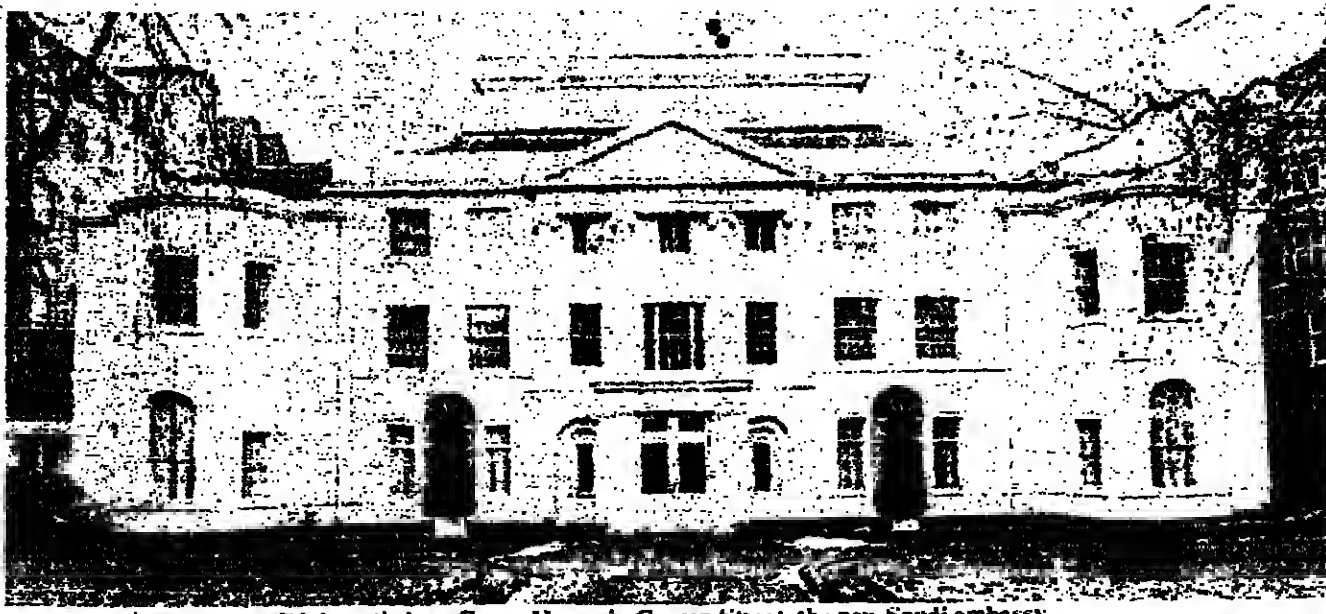
Middle Eastern money is still in evidence in the City. Sheikh Rashid bin Saeed al-Maktoum, ruler of Dubai and Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates, for example, recently bought St Magnus House on the river-front for £40 million. And the Arab Bank Corporation is rumoured to be buying No 1 Moorgate at the rear of the Bank of England, from Commercial Union Assurance, which has owned it for some time.

The Bank of Nova Scotia has Finsbury Square House, for which it paid £15.3 million, and a similar sum was realized when the UBAF Bank acquired 30 Gresham Street, near the Guildhall. The Moscow Narodny Bank is spending £30 million on buying and refurbishing 81 King William Street near London Bridge, which it bought from John Swire & Sons last year. And an American insurance company is believed to be in the market for an £8 million City building.

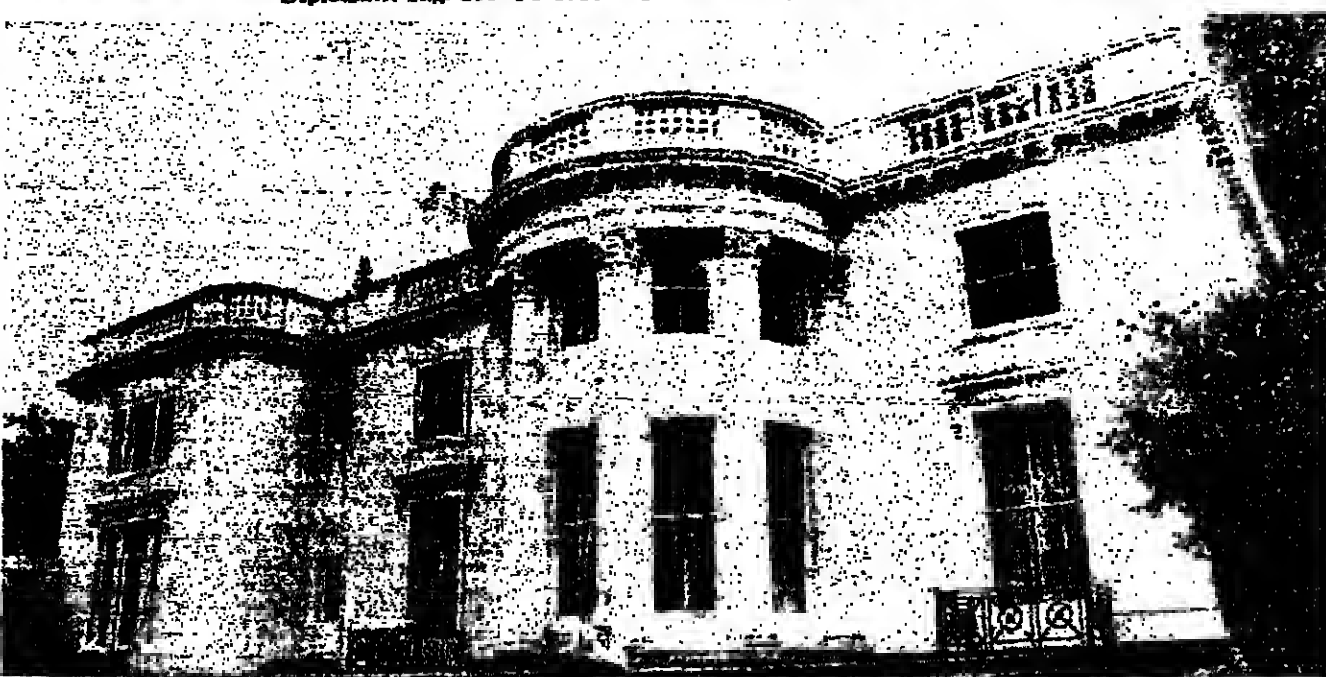
These sales are evidence of foreign investors' confidence in the long-term future of the City of London. Most purchasers are buying for owner-occupation or for part-occupation and part-letting, and believe they will have an appreciating asset.

In the West End, the Saudis recently bought the former headquarters of the Thomas Tilling Group in Mayfair for their London embassy. Crewe House, in Curzon Street, once the home of the Liberal Marquess of Crewe, realized £37 million and was sold to Saudi Arabia by BTR, which acquired it on its £600 million takeover of Thomas Tilling. A figure of £50 million was put on Crewe House at that time.

The Saudis intend to spend a small fortune on the building and will remove some of the



Diplomatic bag: Crewe House in Curzon Street, the new Saudi embassy



Secret service: The Holme sold to a Middle Eastern buyer in the utmost secrecy



Holiday home: Whiteacres in St John's Wood bought by the Qatar royal family

less attractive excrescences added since it was built in 1708 by Edward Shepherd, who gave his name to the nearby Shepherd Market.

But despite foreign interest, much land and buildings in London have remained in the same hands for centuries. The Church, the Crown and the landed estates of the aristocracy still own vast areas of the West End, the City, Victoria and Finsbury. But London is being bought increasingly by pension funds and insurance companies, whose massive wealth accrues from the man in the street.

The British Petroleum Pension Trust, for example, now owns large parts of Berkeley Square in Mayfair. It bought the Square itself and property in the

streets stretching from Charles Street to Bruton Street, taking in Farm Street, Hill Street and Hays Mews for £6 million in 1969. What started life as a farm on the estate of Royalist Civil War commander, Lord Berkeley of Stratton is now one of London's most expensive office areas.

The 30 acres owned by B P Pension Trust are worth about £90 million, and the Trust recently added to its interests by buying for £17.5 million the freehold of Berger House in Berkeley Square from Berger Jensen, the paint manufacturer whose London headquarters it is.

Perhaps the best known of the landed estates is the Grosvenor Estate. It covers 300

acres of London's most exclusive and expensive neighbourhoods and belongs to the family interests of the Duke of Westminster, reputedly the richest man in Britain. No one really knows how many millions his property is worth, but it includes large parts of Mayfair, Park Lane, Bond Street and Grosvenor Square, including the site of the American Embassy.

The Estate recently bought the Department of Health and Social Security's part of St George's Hospital at Hyde Park Corner. It already owned half the site, and plans to build a large office development and restore the hospital building to its former glory.

The Church, too, retains large property holdings. Some £38 million a year, about a third of the Church's income, derives from its property. At last count its commercial property holdings in London produced £20 million in gross rents.

A stretch of Victoria Street, from Victoria Station to the Army and Navy Store, belongs to the Church. But the heart of its real estate lies in land that once belonged to the Bishop of London, from Bayswater Road to Maida Vale. Two residential estates, the 90-acre Hyde Park Estate and the Maida Vale Estate, together with homes in south London, account for over 90 per cent of the value of the Church's £170 million property holdings.

A strong indication of the power of foreign money and interest in London is the sale of The Holme, the Decimus

Burton house in Regent's Park, set in more than four acres. It is probably the most important house to come on the market in London since the war.

The agents, Knight Frank and Rutley, selling on behalf of the Crown Estate, set a minimum price of £5 million, confident that it would be achieved even though the new owner had to prove acceptable to the Crown Commissioners, renovate the place at a cost of at least another £1 million, and agree to open the grounds to the public on occasion.

Their confidence was not misplaced. Several individuals from home and abroad - mostly the latter - determined to make offers. And The Holme, for which another stipulation was that it must be used as a single-family dwelling, has now been sold to a Middle Eastern buyer in utmost secrecy.

The Holme had for years been part of Bedford College of London University, until the leases reverted to the Crown. The other main college buildings last year went on a new lease to Rockford College, Illinois, a private liberal arts college, in a multi-million pound deal - yet another example of overseas infiltration.

As the sale of The Holme illustrates, when overseas buyers - particularly rich Arabs - enter the market seriously, price is no deterrent. Normally they come with specific requirements, as Victoria Mitchell of Savills explains.

They want a house or flat in attractive and quiet surroundings, looking out on trees and a garden square, which is not always easy when proximity to Harrods is also a necessity. The

property should be light, bright and central, in superb decorative order, freehold if possible and ready for occupation. With no other property sale dependent on it, they want to move in immediately.

If those conditions are fulfilled, little can stop such buyers. Competition between two determined overseas bidders can only increase the price. It is estimated that in 1984 nearly two-thirds of the potential purchasers of houses in London from £150,000 upwards were from overseas. Savills put the figure at 60 per cent, Chestertons at 65 per cent.

That level of interest has been apparent for most of the last 10 years. Hampstead, recorded about 70 per cent in 1982 since a number of rich Iranians, anticipating the future, set the pace for a year or two before the Arabs arrived in force in the mid-1970s.

Although the oil money Arabs moved on to the south of France and to the west coast of the United States later in the decade, they kept their stake in London. Once established, they often bypass the agents, selling among themselves as they move around.

The weak pound, a stable government and an economy whose principles they admire give London strong attractions for the overseas investor.

Some of the very best properties never come on to the market, making it impossible accurately to assess overseas ownership. But it is likely that of the 30 most expensive, most exclusive private houses in London, those valued at about £5 million and above, possibly as many as 45 are in foreign ownership, many disguised behind companies and nominees.

Witanhurst, a 60-room neo-Palladian mansion in Highgate, has recently been sold by an Arab company to an Arab buyer for a reputed £7 million. In 1983, Number 1 Cornwall Terrace went to a Middle East buyer for about £5 million, while in the same year Mortimer House in Euston Road, formerly owned by the financier Sir Nigel Brookes, was bought by another Middle East purchaser for £3 million.

With such properties at the top of the price pyramid, it is easy to see how overseas buyers own a sizeable chunk of London property, running into billions of pounds.

At the end of 1984 25 properties were for sale with a price guide of £1 million or more. Some have been on the market for many months, overpriced, but the year probably saw some 25 properties of that value sold.

The £1 million property is no longer rare. Whiteacres, an ambassadorial mansion in Avenue Road, St John's Wood, was offered at £1.85 million during the summer. By September it was sold for £1.75 million to the Royal family of Qatar. They intend to spend a good deal of money on it, to provide them with a holiday home.

With the Saudi royal family settled up the road in another "millionaires' row", The Bishops Avenue - the area has a sizeable Arab population. A new development of five houses being built in The Bishops Avenue, and costing £1.5 million upwards, shows a continuing confidence in the future. Most buyers will be from overseas.

There is some evidence that particular nationalities go to particular locations - Arabs near Regent's Park and Nigerians to Bayswater, for example - the



The Duke of Westminster: Mayfair property



Lady Joseph: home price guide of £3.5 million



Sheikh Rashid: deal for £40 million

most prized locations remain Mayfair, especially for the Americans, and Belgravia.

A new influence is being felt from the Far East. Mr Bruce MacEneaney, of Chestertons, reports that while Middle East buyers have held the top position for four years, 1984 held an increase in buyers from the Far East 128 per cent, compared with 28.5 per cent from the Middle East, most of them from Hong Kong, both British expatriates and Chinese.

Hampstead, which has an office in Hong Kong, says that the Hong Kong Chinese who buy do so for investment, while people from the Middle East buy to come to Britain for a month or two during the year, and Americans come to live here. In the last two years inquiries from Hong Kong purchasers have amounted to 15-20 per cent of Hampstead's business.

Others note a more recent influx of buyers from Singapore and Malaysia. In the last six months, two Malaysian sultans have bought London apartments. Few British buyers can compete when the rare jewels among London property come on the market.

Lady Joseph, widow of Sir Maxwell Joseph, put her home, Park House, in South Kensington, on the market in November with a price guide of £3.5 million. It is two cottages joined together, tucked away behind Grosvenor Square, surrounded by garden, a house almost without comparison. It has now been sold - to an overseas buyer.

Tomorrow: fortunes along the Thames

Bank of Scotland Base Rate

Bank of Scotland announces that, with effect from 14th January, 1985 its Base Rate will be increased from 10.50% per annum to 12.00% per annum

BANK OF SCOTLAND
A FRIEND FOR LIFE



Coutts & Co

Coutts & Co. announce that their Base Rate is increased from 10.50% to 12.00% per annum with effect from the 14th January, 1985 until further notice.

The Deposit Rates on monies subject to seven days' notice of withdrawal are as follows:-

8.75% per annum for funds not liable to CRT.
6.625% per annum for funds liable to CRT (equivalent to 9.46% per annum to a standard rate taxpayer).

Payments of interest made before 6th April, 1985 will normally be at the gross rate.

Clyde Petroleum: Dr A. J. Martin has been made exploration director.

Servisair: Mr John S. Willis has been named managing director.

The Institute of Measurement and Control: Dr D. McLean, of Loughborough University, has been made president in succession to Mr A. E. Parritt.

Sun Life Assurance Society: Mr M. J. Turner has been appointed general manager (life and pension).

Adidas: Mr Horst Dassler has been made chairman of the managing board following the death of his mother Mrs Kaethe Dassler.

UKF Fertilisers: Mr John Reiford has been appointed

personnel director, succeeding Mr Hugh le Bouillier, who has retired.

Coopers & Lybrand: Mr Peter Allen has been made managing partner. Mr Brandon Gough has been appointed chairman of the Executive Committee of Coopers & Lybrand (International) for 1985. Mr Ian Hancock has been made chairman of the management consultancy arm and Mr David Miller managing director.

East Lancashire Paper Group: Mr Bryan Morrill has been made a director. Mr Christopher Shaw is now executive chairman.

Arthur Guinness & Sons: Mr Thomas Ward has been appointed to the board.

Swansea
BUSY CITY
Send for the Swansea BUSINESS File giving your business requirements
Swansea Centre For Trade & Industry
Dept. 12, Singleton Street, Swansea SA1 3QH

National Westminster Bank PLC

NatWest announces that with effect from Monday, 14th January, 1985, its Base Rate is increased from 10.50% to 12.00% per annum.

41 Lothbury London EC2P 2BP

COMPUTER HORIZONS

Beware the electronic burglar

The perpetrators of fraud on banks' computer systems - never acknowledged as existing on any large scale, and computer buffs who challenge the security codes of financial databases, as well as natural disasters are combining to provide new headaches for the computer dependent company of the 1980s.

In recent weeks much publicity has been given to the microcomputer users whose fascination for other computer systems has led them to attempt to penetrate the security of sensitive databases. These electronic burglars - now termed hackers - are the least harmful of the disasters which can befall the average computer system.

These computer whizz kids are usually not malicious, always leaving a calling-card evidence that they have broken the system's security, but nevertheless require the data processing manager in charge of the burgled computer to change codes and alter most of his security keys. So even when the motivation is fun the expense and the damage can be substantial.

The hackers have illustrated the vulnerability of some financial and banking computers. The data on these files is not only sensitive but is also electronic bank which can be robbed. A recent report in the magazine *Banking Technology* by security expert Vincent Gallo highlighted the banks' vulnerability. Banks have not recognized the

risks they are running, claimed the report. It concluded that it would take a gigantic fraud to bring widespread awareness of the risks to these computer networks. Most of the banks were inadequately protected.

The report concluded: "Such is the proliferation of microcomputers in the home, and the growth of computer studies at an early age in our schools, that we are creating a generation with the expertise to manipulate sophisticated computer systems."

"The attraction for the would-be criminal is that he or she may gain

THE WEEK

By Bill Johnstone
Technology Correspondent

inside knowledge enabling some loopholes in the system to be exploited or operate unseen at a considerable distance from the scene of the crime."

There is little doubt that large-scale electronic fraud would need inside assistance. It was to that end that Lloyd's of London launched a new electronic and computer crime unit. The underwriters had identified what they called "a weakness in the basic insurance cover purchased by bankers, leading to a potentially serious

exposure in the area of electronic operations."

The computer systems of the early 1970s the insurers had concluded, were secure because of the general lack of computer literacy. That is no longer the case. The new policy launched was to insure against unauthorised access to a terminal, fraudulent preparation of tapes, fraudulent preparation of computer programs and access to a bank's communication lines.

The persons who know the computer systems are therefore one of the potential weaknesses. However banks and other financial institutions which have been the subject of electronic fraud are reluctant to publicise their deficiencies.

Dr Kenneth Wong, a computer expert from BIS Applied Systems, has compiled case histories of 95 computer crimes in Britain. He says: "The majority of cases incurred losses of up to £10,000 and one or two isolated cases reaching amounts of £50,000 each. The average amount defrauded is around £31,000. The loss pattern is broadly similar to that experience in the USA where the average loss is £850,000 and the maximum reaches some £2 million. This would appear to suggest that UK losses are not out of line with those in the USA. However, in the US, by law all financial institutions which have suffered from computer abuse must report their losses

to the federal authorities, and so the US cases are heavily weighted in the financial sector, which probably explains the higher average loss.

Even at a more basic level the computer user is becoming increasingly vulnerable. The new Data Protection Act, which became law last year creating the Data Protection Registrar, will undoubtedly mean that computer systems will need to be given higher levels of security. Data which is not adequately protected could mean that the computer owner will become liable to prosecution.

But even the acts of God - explosions, lightning, fire, flood and the like - provide substantial problems for computer users. Valuable files and tapes could be destroyed in seconds. Computer users must then have contingency plans.

Dr Wong has studied these vulnerable areas and says: "Approximately 10 cases a year of fire and explosion involving computer installations in the UK came to our attention in the last few years."

Dr Wong has compiled a dossier containing 47 cases of fire, explosion and arson. According to Dr Wong: "Thirty per cent of the total were attributed to arson or bombing, rising to over 50 per cent for losses in excess of £500,000."

Such is the cost of computer power.

Women and the micro

From Professor D. W. Barron, R. F. Crawford, P. F. Farrow, P. W. Garratt and W. Hall at the Department of Computer Studies, Southampton University.

Ada Countess Lovelace (1816-1852) is, ironically, considered to be the world's first programmer, but today woman's role in professional computing looks bleak.

The number of women entering computing courses at university level has steadily declined since 1981. Here at Southampton the computing courses prior to 1981 had 30-40 per cent female participants, but this has steadily declined and in 1983-84 it was below 10 per cent. National figures show the same trend: about 25 per cent female in 1981 down to approximately 18 per cent for 1983. It is of interest to note that the decline began a year after microcomputers were introduced into schools in 1980.

A recent report, *Microcomputers in Education*, from the Economic and Social Research Council severely criticised the mismanagement of the introduction of the microcomputer into schools, in particular the "innovation without research". There appears to be an important psychological factor in the

LETTERS

attitude among girls that "computers are for boys", despite the fact that the ability of women on computing courses has always matched the men.

Wrong revolution

From Brian Tregar, managing director, Simple Software, Havelock Road, Brighton, Sussex: "The microcomputer 'revolution' is such because of its flexibility and cheapness. Its flexibility allows vast numbers of applications packages to be produced for precise purposes, though not always for the machine that one has already. Its cheapness allows it to be adopted for a single, sometimes quite small application, and to be relatively expendable if that application can later be handled better with the software or peripherals available only on another machine.

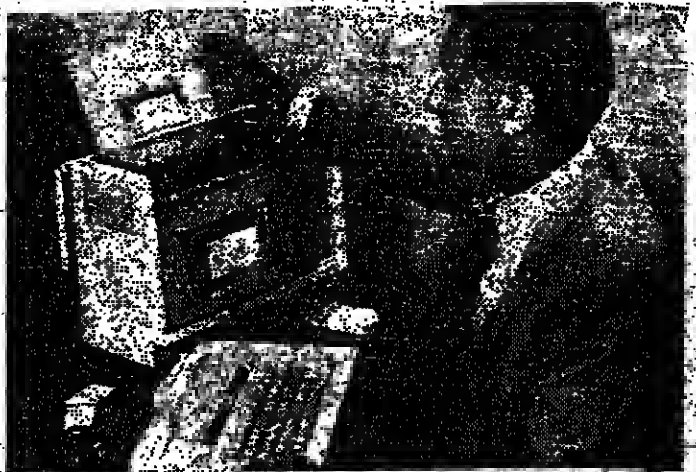
Standardisation has its virtues, but setting up huge clusters of similar machines in education at this early stage effectively masks those important points. Government policy might be better directed at encouraging schools to consider what is the best value machine for each particular purpose. The use of a computer in a school is not necessarily to teach programming, any more than the use of a book is to teach reading.

Computer breaks

From J. T. Coulter, Alzey Gardens, Harpenden, Hertfordshire:

So an international trade union conference in Geneva suggests that limits are placed on the time workers spend at computer terminals. Why not introduce breaks that allow computers to be switched to some form of off-screen relaxation, which allows operators to switch off for an agreed time?

While it is hard to get children away from the television at home (no lack of attention or strain there) if and when schools are able to give children more and more access to computers and VDUs, the attention span will suffer unless something like the diversion described could be adopted.



Hewlett-Packard join the takeover market with this Unix PC

H-P launch cash and carry micro

By David Guest

The computer industry's most fashionable operating system gets a shot in the arm this week with Hewlett-Packard's launch of a transportable microcomputer that runs Unix.

Unix has been highly regarded for several years as a possible means of creating a standard operating system for business microcomputers of different sizes and different provenance. But its appearance on fast, reliable business micros is a relatively recent event, and on the new H-P system, called the Integral, it goes portable for the first time.

The Integral weighs 25lbs, three pounds lighter than the Osborne 1 which set the transportable trend. It offers the user a Motorola 68000 processor, 512K of RAM memory, 256K to house the Unix software, and another 32K to drive a 9-inch amber electro-luminescent flat screen.

Also included in the £5,450 package are a 710K floppy disk drive, an H-P Thinkjet printer and a professional keyboard. The company adds its own Personal Applications Manager software and throws in a windowing system of splitting the screen for good measure.

Hewlett-Packard says the Integral should appeal particularly to scientific and engineering users, but its potential as a business micro could prove to

be more significant. Unix has traditionally been a technician's tool, and H-P's greatest strength lies in the area of technical computing, but the signs are that mass acceptance of Unix as a commercial tool is very close.

The attractions of Unix as a standard operating system owe much to the fact that its development has not been driven by the market. Unix has a great breadth of self-contained features, and it will support more than one user performing more than one simultaneous task on a relatively inexpensive computer. MSDOS, however, popularised as PC DOS on the IBM PC, is strictly a one-job-at-a-time system. But it isn't designed to be used by novices, and software houses have found that the development of programs to run under Unix is more difficult than they had anticipated.

H-P's plans for the Integral do not exclude the business community. It has available versions of the Multplan spreadsheet, the database language dBase III, and the word processor Memomaker to run on the machine. Several portable computer makers have gone out of business in the last six months. But the Integral opens the door to a new market, and the reputation that H-P acquired as an innovator (for its touch-screen HP 150) may be strengthened by it.

Time to win an Acorn

There is only a fortnight left to enter *The Times* Network for Schools Competition and win an Acorn Electron and for your school one of the first Acorn ABC Business Computers, plus a years free membership of TTNS.

You do not have to be a member of TTNS or have any knowledge of computer programming in order to take part. The competition is open to all students aged 11 to 18 years. What you have to do is devise an imaginative and original curriculum-related project for TTNS, making the best use of

its main features, which are: inter-school communication nationwide, using computers; a central database, searchable by means of keyword; fast transmission of large data files or software programs. Write your idea on a single sheet of paper, using no more than 250 words. Include your name, age, address and telephone number, together with the name and address of your school. Send the completed entry to: TTNS, Competition, PO Box 7, 200 Grafton Road, London WC1 8EZ, to arrive by Thursday January 31.

IBM PC COMPLETE WITH 2.56MB DISK DRIVE, MONITOR, KEYBOARD, PRINTER, ADAPTER, DOS 2.11, MANUALS, ETC.

£1500

MORSE COMPUTERS
78 High Holborn WC1 01-831 0644

A LITTLE LESS NOISE

At ABS Computers, we tend to be rather more reserved than some of our rivals. It's simply not our style to join in the daily hubbub.

With our business computer systems, however, we match the performance of our rivals right down the line. As hundreds of organisations who use them will readily confirm.

Take advantage of a rare opportunity to hear a little more from us. Post the coupon or phone and ask for Debbie Thompson or Clive Scott.

ABS COMPUTERS
A member of the Tradefair House Group

North Street, Portlaine, Brighton, East Sussex BN1 1EP
Telephone: Brighton (0273) 421509 Telex: 87488 ABSBRI G

YES PLEASE! I'd like to know more about ABS Business Systems.

Name _____ Position _____
Company _____
Address _____
Phone _____

Beat-the-cheat plan for High Street

COMPUTER BRIEFING

Software packages might soon be labelled with a distinct six digit code that will make them easier to order, harder to pirate in bulk and will also form the basis for what is claimed will be the first accurate programs chart.

It is the idea of the Guild of Software Houses (GOSH) and Gallop, the poll organization. The concept, which includes both business and games software, is being touted round the major retailers to see if they will accept the principle and pay some of the start up costs. All now rests on whether the High Street stores will buy the idea.

"From their point of view," says GOSH chairman Paul Duffy, "it will be easier to order a title using the code. It should also make it easier for software suppliers to avoid piracy."

Apple bite

Former Commodore head Jack Tramiel declared war on his old company last year by buying the ailing Atari computer company and

slashing the prices of its home computers. He has started the new year with a new range of machines to go with it.

Mr Tramiel still hopes to improve on the business machine company he built, but the strategy now involves the promotion of six new machines - all with specifications and prices that could prove to be Commodore killers. The two top-of-the-line machines could also be aimed at taking a chunk of Apple's market - both use the 68000 processor used in the Apple Macintosh and offer much the same kind of look and style.

The other four are based on the design introduced in 1983. These machines will be competitively priced and are obviously designed at providing cannon fodder against the Commodore 64 and new Commodore 16 micros.

Commodore has launched two new machines of its own: the C128, a Commodore 64-compatible with extra memory and the ability to use the CP/M business operating system and a portable battery-operated computer with built-in software.

Flexi-tests

The City and Guilds of London Institute is launching a major new initiative in information technology qualifications under the title of the "725 Information Technology". The Institute will be providing a full range of syllabuses and certification in the three disciplines of programming and software,

electronics and hardware, and computer operations and applications. This is a major breakthrough in bringing together the hardware, software and applications disciplines into a co-ordinated structure.

"What we've done is draw up a comprehensive scheme for the computer practitioner at all levels from operator through to higher technician," says Peter Neale, the institute's research officer with the chief responsibility for the 725. "We recognize that in both industry and commerce there are now vast numbers of people working with computers and it's some of them will be technical specialists but others will only be occasional users. What we've tried to do is accommodate all these various needs in a flexible way."

Helping Ethiopians

ChesterSoft, producers of home computer games, are planning to devote profit from new game *Star George* - an arcade style game running on either Spectrum or Commodore 64 - to the Save the Children Ethiopian appeal. They will donate 50p for each cassette sold, which they claim is the profit on the games, selling at £6.95.



"You get it to work by keying in the company song."

Which and where

The Which Computer Show opens today at the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham and continues until Friday. The 350 exhibitors will include Commodore, which will be previewing its IBM-compatible business micro and Oberon International, with the innovative Cam-Reader - a £400 optical character reader that can be added to a micro to read most popular typewriters.

Computer art

Today also sees the start of a one-man computer art show by Jeremy Gardiner in Jordan Place off Farnham Broadway, West London, while the RCA has a computer art exhibition running until January 18.

Jeremy Gardiner's pictures are painted in acrylics by himself in the

conventional way, but he uses a computer extensively in the planning and design of the pictures, experimenting with images, transforming them, and making a series of trial prints before transferring the work to paint. His aim is to "take the language of computers, vector drawing, pixels and so forth, and bring it into painting."

He is also working on an animated film and is currently based at the new Visual Language Workshop at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, on a Harkness Fellowship. The exhibition will run until February 4.

French leave

France has thrown a bombshell into the 40-nation inter-governmental Bureau for the Home-based Organisation.

The French and Mexicans agreed a 122 per cent budget increase - from \$18m in the two years 1983-84 to \$40m for 1985-86. France had paid 30 per cent of the budget. The organisation intends to maintain its level of work in the next two years and is not changing the programme.

France's withdrawal leaves Italy with a head start for promoting its wares in the developing world. Italian was also adopted as an official language at last month's assembly.

Britain, the US, Japan and West Germany have never joined ISI, which was formed as an offshoot from UNESCO in 1974.

UK Events

What is artificial intelligence? (ten widely available) Royal Holloway University, London from today (01 253 3499). Which Computer? NEC, Birmingham, today until Friday (01 891 5051).

High Technology & Computers Education, Exeter, London, January 28-29 (01 930 1612).

Apricot & Sine Computer Show, Kensington Town Hall, London, February 5-7 (01241 2354).

International Trade Show for Home Computers, Software, LET, Olympia, London, February 17-19 (01377 77000).

International Computer Graphics User, Barbican, London, February 19-21 (01 486 1951).

Overseas

Computer Exhibition - Computer Thai, Bangkok, Thailand, January 32-26.

International Microcomputer Fair, Frankfurt, Germany, January 29-February 3.

Maxcom, Mexico City, Mexico, February 25-28.

Compiled by Personal Computer News.

Step up in your Office Systems career

In just five years the Office Systems Management Centre has become one of the country's leading independent consultancies.

Our team has gained recognition and an enviable user-base across the widest possible range of hardware and software.

Our 1985 expansion calls for a number of skilled, flexible people capable of adding extra dimensions to our resources.

You will be managing client implementation. You will need to be able to co-ordinate resources needs, determine and present client strategies and deal with all levels of management.

Working as part of a centre of competence, you'll be skilled in at least one of the following:

WORK MEASUREMENT, NETWORKING, SYSTEMS ENGINEERING

Familiarity with IBM and Digital office systems would be an added bonus.

Trainers £13,500-£15,000

As we recognise the importance of training skills, you will need to have a thorough training experience on at least three well known word-processing systems, PC Specialists with spreadsheet, database and other common application skills would be very welcome.

Contract Team to £11,000

We provide both large and small users with contract teams of skilled operators. So our field force is growing daily. You're probably working as a supervisor or lead operator in an existing installation and are keen to develop your all-round skills.

There's an excellent incentive and benefits package to go with all these appointments. You'll be working in a creative and demanding environment in a career with real potential.

If you'd like to talk to us in confidence, call Christopher Bryant on 01-439 4001 or Stephen Fishman on 01-437 7855 today, or write to us with full CV.

— OFFICE —
— SYSTEMS —
— MANAGEMENT —
— CENTRE —

115 Shaftesbury Avenue, London, WC2H 8AR
The Office Systems Division of The Alfred Mearns Group

N.P. Record Limited

Professionals in Currency Risk Management

Software Development - Financial Services

£12,000 - £16,000

We are a small, rapidly expanding company engaged in currency risk management and consultancy. A vacancy exists for a graduate aged 22-26, with good academic qualifications and 2-4 years business experience, preferably with a financial background. He/she should have significant computer experience, including a working knowledge of Basic, Fortran or Pascal programming languages.

We offer a varied and interesting workload in an intellectually demanding environment, together with an excellent remuneration package, including non-contributory pension scheme and annual bonus. The successful candidate will have the opportunity to move into other areas within the company, depending upon performance.

Write, enclosing curriculum vitae and daytime telephone number to:

Les Halpin, Financial Manager, N.P. Record Limited

16 High Street, Windsor, Berks SL4 1LD.

Tel: Windsor (0753) 50910

COBOL PROGRAMMERS, 18 months on IBM main frame with

COBOL programming systems. £2,000

(1) TECHNICAL SUPPORT, insurance, pensions systems, Minimum 4 years experience in COBOL, Fortran or Pascal programming languages. £2,000

(2) IBM MAINFRAME, Senior Programmer (COBOL), Minimum 4 years experience in design and programme code on-line systems. £2,000

(3) IBM MAINFRAME, Senior Programmer (COBOL), Minimum 4 years experience in design and programme code on-line systems. £2,000

(4) IBM MAINFRAME, Senior Programmer (COBOL), Minimum 4 years experience in design and programme code on-line systems. £2,000

(5) IBM MAINFRAME, Senior Programmer (COBOL), Minimum 4 years experience in design and programme code on-line systems. £2,000

(6) IBM MAINFRAME, Senior Programmer (COBOL), Minimum 4 years experience in design and programme code on-line systems. £2,000

(7) IBM MAINFRAME, Senior Programmer (COBOL), Minimum 4 years experience in design and programme code on-line systems. £2,000

(8) IBM MAINFRAME, Senior Programmer (COBOL), Minimum 4 years experience in design and programme code on-line systems. £2,000

(9) IBM MAINFRAME, Senior Programmer (COBOL), Minimum 4 years experience in design and programme code on-line systems. £2,000

(10) IBM MAINFRAME, Senior Programmer (COBOL), Minimum 4 years experience in design and programme code on-line systems. £2,000

ARMITAGE RECRUITMENT AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES

0272 277449

51 Baldwin Street, Bristol, BS1 1BA

ATHLETICS

London city mile may provide Moorcroft with a new goal

By Pat Butcher

David Moorcroft, one of Britain's most successful athletes of the last decade, may never be able to race again at 5,000 metres, the distance at which he holds the world record of 13 min 00.41 sec. The pelvic disorder which blighted Moorcroft's Olympic season last year and caused him to finish almost a lap behind Said Aouita of Morocco in Los Angeles, has still barely responded to treatment five months later.

Moorcroft, now 31, was in London yesterday as athletics advisor to the Peugeot Talbot group, who are putting £1.25 million into the sport in the next five years. But it was evident that Moorcroft would forsake his consultancy for the assurance of being able to run again, even the mile or so jog that he has been denied since the Olympic Games.

In an evident nod to his benefactors yesterday, he said that the consultancy "will help fill the gap in my life. You don't know how much athletics means to you until you are out of it." But he has the slight hope that a bone scan a month ago, which showed a possible infection, might prove his salvation. "At least it's something definite, which the doctors had never noticed before. They're quite excited about it, and after a month of antibiotics, I've felt better than I have in ages."

So the 1978 Commonwealth gold and European bronze medals winner at 1,500 metres, and the European 5,000 bronze medal winner in 1982 (the year of his world record), and one of the most honest people in British athletics, may yet survive to join the ranks of road runners, right up to marathon level. As a youngster in the Coventry Godiva club when Basil Harty, Brian Kilby and Bill Adcock were kings of British roads, it would be a more fitting career epitaph. As Moorcroft put it, "I'd like to retire when I want to retire."

Norman tipped for post

The British Athletics Promotion Unit, a hybrid of the uneasy alliance between the British Athletic Board and its most prominent federation member, the Amateur Athletic Association, is preparing to advertise for a promotions officer at a salary of "around £20,000 per year", according to the Board secretary, Nigel Cooper (Pat Butcher writes). The decision was taken at the Board council meeting in Birmingham, after the Coxford Games at the weekend.

The newly created post seems to

have been earmarked for Andy Norman, the man who has been as responsible as anyone in Britain for dragging the sport into the professional era. Norman recently resigned after two years as the police force, and is currently working part-time for a sports agency in London. The salary, however, is considerably less than the £40,000 which many people expected. Cooper said last night: "Jobs at £20,000 are not easy to come by. We hope to fill the post by April 1."

SKIING



Miss Magoni speeds to a brave victory

Miss Magoni conquers difficult conditions

Pfaffen, West Germany (Reuters) - Patricia Magoni, an Italian teenager, braved one of the toughest mountainous slopes of the World Cup season to win the women's slalom yesterday. Her best result since her surprising Olympic victory last year, she overcame treacherous conditions which saw only 19 of the 83 starters finish. Miss Magoni, aged 19, clocked the best time on both legs for her first World Cup victory. Her total time of 1min 47.18sec put her more than a second ahead of Brigitte Oertli, of Switzerland (1:48.50), and another Italian, Daniela Zini (1:49.18).

Miss Magoni was tied for first place with the current World Cup champion, Erika Hess, on 30.95sec after the opening leg, but the Swiss girl missed a gate near the bottom of the final leg and crashed out.

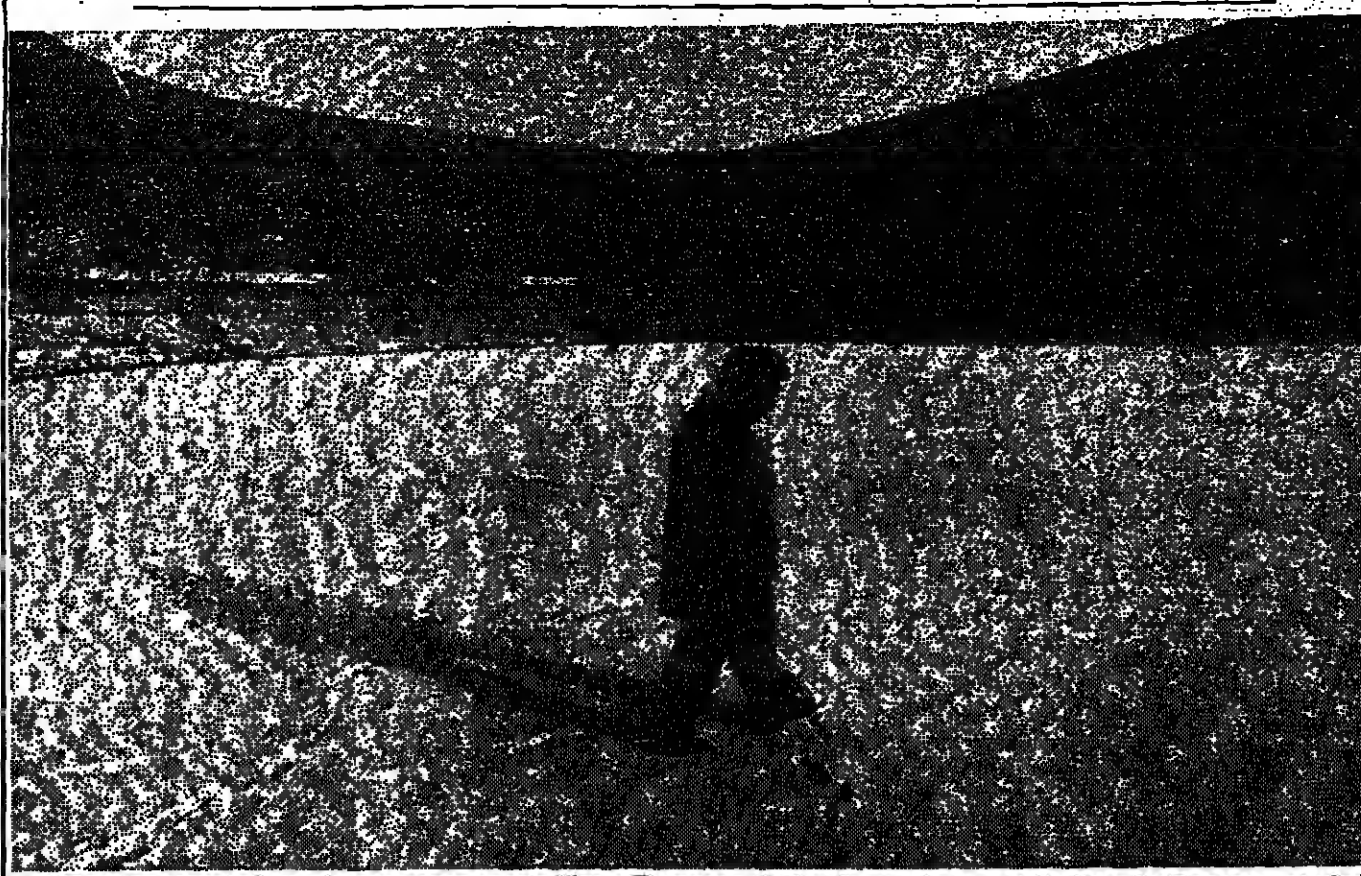
A delighted Miss Magoni, who proved her heroics in her Olympic victory in Sarajevo was no fluke, said: "It was a very difficult slope, but that suits the Italians. We always do well when conditions are tough."

Miss Oertli, whose second place look her to the top of the overall World Cup standings, level with her compatriot, Michela Figini, on 163 points, said the course was as tough as at Maribor, Yugoslavia, when there were also a large number of non-finishers.

NEWSPAPER STANDINGS: 1. P Magoni (It), 2. Hess (Swi), 3. Oertli (Swi), 4. Zini (It), 5. Figini (It), 6. G. Hess (Swi), 7. B. Hess (Swi), 8. M. Figini (It), 9. M. Figini (It), 10. M. Figini (It), 11. M. Figini (It), 12. M. Figini (It), 13. M. Figini (It), 14. M. Figini (It), 15. M. Figini (It), 16. M. Figini (It), 17. M. Figini (It), 18. M. Figini (It), 19. M. Figini (It), 20. M. Figini (It).

OVERALL STANDINGS: 1. M. Figini (It), 2. M. Figini (It), 3. M. Figini (It), 4. M. Figini (It), 5. M. Figini (It), 6. M. Figini (It), 7. M. Figini (It), 8. M. Figini (It), 9. M. Figini (It), 10. M. Figini (It), 11. M. Figini (It), 12. M. Figini (It), 13. M. Figini (It), 14. M. Figini (It), 15. M. Figini (It), 16. M. Figini (It), 17. M. Figini (It), 18. M. Figini (It), 19. M. Figini (It), 20. M. Figini (It).

RUGBY UNION: FRANCE FIGHT TO KEEP THEIR SATURDAY DATE WITH WALES



A Parisian carpet of unwelcoming snow greets Henri Chavaon, the head groundsman, at the Parc des Princes yesterday

Mayor of Paris lends weight to save pitch

Paris (AFP) - Albert Ferrasse, the French Rugby Federation president, will decide tomorrow if Saturday's five nations match with Wales can go ahead. The Parc des Princes was yesterday cleared of snow and covered. A series of snow blowing hot air underneath the covers are helping to thaw the pitch.

Jacques Chirac, the manager of Paris, has joined the fight to save the match, saying that everything will be done to get the pitch fit for the game.

Because of the weather, Saturday's B international between Scotland and France has been transferred from Aberdeen to Murrayfield (Ian McLauchlan writes). The kick-off will be 2.15. Scotland are expected to play as selected, although Paul Hogarth (injured

elbow) and Iwan Tukalo (dead leg) did not complete Sunday's squad meeting.

The schools who were defeated by North Berwick High School in the semi-final and final of the Bank of Scotland Scottish Schools Cup last season, Portobello High School and Marr College respectively, are drawn against each other in this year's quarter-final. Galashiels Academy meet Earlsferry High School in a Border derby.

DRAW: Portobello HS v Marr College, Oban HS v Dumblane HS, St Aloysius College v Kilwinning Academy, Galashiels Academy v Earlsferry HS. Ties to be played by February 9.

CLUB MATCH: Cancelled: Plymouth Albion v HOSPITALS' CUP: First round: Postponed: London v St Bartholomew's.

SQUASH RACKETS

Rivals pool talents to win title

By Colin McQuillan

Karen Butterworth, a stalwart of club competition and a successful sports clothes designer, is ranked fifteenth in England. Her young partner is regarded as potentially the best junior on the women's scene for some years. Miss Cummings and Miss Spurgeon are bettered only by the Guernsey girls, Lisa Opie and Martine Le Moignan, in domestic singles listings, and may not scale for that illustrious and longer. Last year's success was, strangely, their first venture into the four-handed version of the game they learnt together at a small private club in Lingsfield, Surrey.

They say they have not been on court together other than in a deeply

antagonistic sense since the 1984 Powerball final. There were moments yesterday when misunderstandings illustrated the separation.

Miss Butterworth and Miss Cumliffe resisted Miss Spurgeon and Miss Cummings patiently and intelligently, easing the second game away from them by a single point, but the steady pressure of Miss Cummings in the backhand court and an untidy mix of brilliance and inattention from Miss Spurgeon on the forehand was too much for them.

Bournemouth's full back, Evarald La Roche, is joining Perceborough United on a month's loan.

Rex Bellamy looks at the light hearted side of doubles

Where Euclid's angles are transformed into curves

The publicity granted to this or that sport often seems to depend on how many people watch it rather than how many play it. This debateable point explains why sporting scribes devote more attention to tennis than to Britain's most popular racket games, badminton and squash. The most popular, that is, among those who would rather sweat than sit.

The walls give squash a geometric range that is almost Euclidean; and every player's objective is a ball-burial in the nick between walls and floor. Badminton has scored heavily, though, because the net reduces traffic hazards and permits more scope for the sick reprieve of doubles.

The American version of squash has always fostered doubles - on roomy, custom-built courts. Britain has to make do with singles court and American rules. But the doubles game has taken root at club level, the women have run an international championship since 1957, and the second national championships have just tempted the upper crust to spend a long weekend at the South Marston Country Club in Swindon's hinterland.

Slowing down for the horses on the club's peripheral lanes, one savoured scattered memories of three doubles matches. The first was in the early days of the Times Squash Club when nobody knew what was happening, even in singles. The second was on a genuine doubles court somewhere in Ohio.

The third was at Richmond, where one's playmates included a man called Michael Edwards, who had something to do with industrial management - in those days, cars. This slim little chap was surprising. One expected the overtoughness of a swashbuckling adventurer but his game was all neatly measured deliberation. He served so carefully that I assumed he used calipers when practising.

These baffling excursions into doubles were a preparation, of sorts, for the engaging spectacle at South Marston. One says "of sorts" because many kind of doubles raised images of hockey players hacking away in a loose scrum. Polka-dot legs were commonplace. The South Marston

brand of doubles was more like formation dancing. The women, though, seemed less adept at evasion and one direct hit evoked a muttered obscenity.

Two experts tried to explain what was going on. They agreed that the great thing was to keep the ball going and that playing "front and right" with each player in a team looking after one side of the court, worked better than playing "front and back".

Karen Butterworth, a pretty lass who betrayed her Lancashire origins by calling me "a little tyke" (never mind why), put it this way: "Playing side to side, it's easier to keep out of the way. Front and back can be confusing - and the front player can get really tired". This referred to the front player's strenuous task in persistently taking the ball early.

"This tournament is so lightweight", Miss Butterworth added. "It's playing when there are two of you there. I wouldn't like to get very serious about it. The court is too small. But it's exciting to watch - and the women go for more shots than the men."

Robert Forde, from Cheshire, said doubles was "very tactical" and that its challenges were mental rather than physical. "The important thing is consistency. It pays to be slightly negative. You have to attack, but with discretion. One way to force mistakes is to hit the ball into your opponent rather than away from him."

"You must work as a team and be aware of where your partner may hit the ball. Some teams hit each other, because they haven't worked it out in advance. And you must always be prepared to play the ball - otherwise you could ask for lots all the time."

It all made sense and the action on court was fun, though skilfully competitive. First-round losers were drawn out of a hat for an experimental mixed doubles event that could become a national championship like the others. Well, almost like the others. Sharing a court with the likes of Miss Butterworth, "Stripper" Spurgeon or "Legs" Cummings could ruin a man's concentration.

TENNIS

Second title in a week for Becker

Portland, Oregon (AFP) - Boris Becker, of West Germany, recent winner of the new Belgian-American Young Masters Championships, won the invitation tournament here when he defeated Mel Purcell, 6-4, 6-4. The 26-year-old American was always trailing to Becker, aged 17, who had beaten the Swedish Davis Cup champion and former junior world champion Stefan Edberg to claim the under-21 title in Birmingham last week.

First prize was worth \$10,000 to Becker, the top-ranked player in West Germany and a member of the West German Davis Cup team. Purcell received \$6,000. In the women's final, Julie Grunmel

defeated her younger sister, Jojo, 7-5, 7-5. In Washington Martina Navratilova, the top seed, and the fourth seed Manuela Maleeva, of Bulgaria, advanced in the finals of the \$150,000 women's indoor championships.

Miss Navratilova needed only 46 minutes to beat her fellow American Zina Garrison, 6-1, 6-2, while Miss Maleeva beat Kathy Rinaldi, also of the United States, 7-6, 6-1.

Miss Garrison, who had played Miss Navratilova on eight previous occasions without winning a set, tried to change her strategy from earlier matches in the week by playing a serve and volley game.

"Tonight I felt like my serve could be better than the last 133.

Becker always in front.

RUGBY LEAGUE

French rides off on his white steed to defend his cause

By Keith Macklin

Rugby Union. They could see some and realize that schoolboys are better taught by schoolmasters who have experience of rugby than they could take over schools Rugby Union themselves, or they could place a legal injunction on him and explain their decision to a judge.

The matter blew up last month when French was told by the county committee that he could no longer take his place on the school committee or take part in coaching the Lancashire schools team.

Although no specific reasons were given, the little doctor, who has been the BBC's Rugby League commentator and a former Rugby League international player who has introduced the 13-a-side game at his St Helens school, conveyed, more or less, the gist of the decision.

John Dewhurst, the secretary of Lancashire Schools Rugby Union committee, confirmed rumours that Lancashire Rugby Union had suggested that French should no longer take his place on the school committee or take part in coaching the Lancashire schools team.

Many members of the Lancashire schools committee support the Ray French viewpoint, and a straw poll of players and officials throughout the North of England has indicated that the schools committee is in favour. It will be a surprise if the schools committee meeting does not strongly recommend a change.

French is the chairman of the south central area of Lancashire Schools Rugby Union and there is no doubt that there is considerable support for his stand not merely in Lancashire but throughout the Rugby Union world. He told me yesterday: "I am advised that the right to law to stop me taking my place on the schools committee. I was democratically elected - by schoolmasters within the county, I represent a county area and the election was democratically conducted." French said that there were three options open to the Lancashire

schools committee: to support French, to support the schools committee, or to support the Rugby Union world.

French is the chairman of the south central area of Lancashire Schools Rugby Union and there is no doubt that there is considerable support for his stand not merely in Lancashire but throughout the Rugby Union world. He told me yesterday: "I am advised that the right to law to stop me taking my place on the schools committee. I was democratically elected - by schoolmasters within the county, I represent a county area and the election was democratically conducted." French said that there were three options open to the Lancashire

schools committee: to support French, to support the schools committee, or to support the Rugby Union world.

French is the chairman of the south central area of Lancashire Schools Rugby Union and there is no doubt that there is considerable support for his stand not merely in Lancashire but throughout the Rugby Union world. He told me yesterday: "I am advised that the right to law to stop me taking my place on the schools committee. I was democratically elected - by schoolmasters within the county, I represent a county area and the election was democratically conducted." French said that there were three options open to the Lancashire

schools committee: to support French, to support the schools committee, or to support the Rugby Union world.

French is the chairman of the south central area of Lancashire Schools Rugby Union and there is no doubt that there is considerable support for his stand not merely in Lancashire but throughout the Rugby Union world. He told me yesterday: "I am advised that the right to law to stop me taking my place on the schools committee. I was democratically elected - by schoolmasters within the county, I represent a county area and the election was democratically conducted." French said that there were three options open to the Lancashire

schools committee: to support French, to support the schools committee, or to support the Rugby Union world.

French is the chairman of the south central area of Lancashire Schools Rugby Union and there is no doubt that there is considerable support for his stand not merely in Lancashire but throughout the Rugby Union world. He told me yesterday: "I am advised that the right to law to stop me taking my place on the schools committee. I was democratically elected - by schoolmasters within the county, I represent a county area and the election was democratically conducted." French said that there were three options open to the Lancashire

schools committee: to support French, to support the schools committee, or to support the Rugby Union world.

French is the chairman of the south central area of Lancashire Schools Rugby Union and there is no doubt that there is considerable support for his stand not merely in Lancashire but throughout the Rugby Union world. He told me yesterday: "I am advised that the right to law to stop me taking my place on the schools committee. I was democratically elected - by schoolmasters within the county, I represent a county area and the election was democratically conducted." French said that there were three options open to the Lancashire

schools committee: to support French, to support the schools committee, or to support the Rugby Union world.

French is the chairman of the south central area of Lancashire Schools Rugby Union and there is no doubt that there is considerable support for his stand not merely in Lancashire but throughout the Rugby Union world. He told me yesterday: "I am advised that the right to law to stop me taking my place on the schools committee. I was democratically elected - by schoolmasters within the county, I represent a county area and the election was democratically conducted." French said that there were three options open to the Lancashire

schools committee: to support French, to support the schools committee, or to support the Rugby Union world.

French is the chairman of the south central area of Lancashire Schools Rugby Union and there is no doubt that there is considerable support for his stand not merely in Lancashire but throughout the Rugby Union world. He told me yesterday: "I am advised that the right to law to stop me taking my place on the schools committee. I was democratically elected - by schoolmasters within the county, I represent a county area and the election was democratically conducted." French said that there were three options open to the Lancashire

schools committee: to support French, to support the schools committee, or to support the Rugby Union world.

French is the chairman of the south central area of Lancashire Schools Rugby Union and there is no doubt that there is considerable support for his stand not merely in Lancashire but throughout the Rugby Union world. He told me yesterday: "I am advised that the right to law to stop me taking my place on the schools committee. I was democratically elected - by schoolmasters within the county, I represent a county area and the election was democratically conducted." French said that there were three options open to the Lancashire

schools committee: to support French, to support the schools committee, or to support the Rugby Union world.

French is the chairman of the south central area of Lancashire Schools Rugby Union and there is no doubt that there is considerable support for his stand not merely in Lancashire but throughout the Rugby Union world. He told me yesterday: "I am advised that the right to law to stop me taking my place on the schools committee. I was democratically elected - by schoolmasters within the county, I represent a county area and the election was democratically conducted." French said that there were three options open to the Lancashire

schools committee: to support French, to support the schools committee, or to support the Rugby Union world.

French is the chairman of the south central area of Lancashire Schools Rugby Union and there is no doubt that there is considerable support for his stand not merely in Lancashire but throughout the Rugby Union world. He told me yesterday: "I am advised that the right to law to stop me taking my place on the schools committee. I was democratically elected - by schoolmasters within the county, I represent a county area and the election was democratically conducted." French said that there were three options open to the Lancashire

schools committee: to support French, to support the schools committee, or to support the Rugby Union world.

French is the chairman of the south central area of Lancashire Schools Rugby Union and there is no doubt that there is considerable support for his stand not merely in Lancashire but throughout the Rugby Union world. He told me yesterday: "I am advised that the right to law to stop me taking my place on the schools committee. I was democratically elected - by schoolmasters within the county, I represent a county area and the election was democratically conducted." French said that there were three options open to the Lancashire

schools committee: to support French, to support the schools committee, or to support the Rugby Union world.

French is the chairman of the south central area of Lancashire Schools Rugby Union and there is no doubt that there is considerable support for his stand not merely in Lancashire but throughout the Rugby Union world. He told me yesterday: "I am advised that the right to law to stop me taking my place on the schools committee. I was democratically elected - by schoolmasters within the county, I represent a county area and the election was democratically conducted." French said that there were three options open to the Lancashire

schools committee: to support French, to support the schools committee, or to support the Rugby Union world.

... ..

27

ILFORD, Probate Specialist Solicitor or Legal Exec. Urgent. **Leam** or **Leamington**, 12-13-83. **Agcy.**

S. KENSINGTON Solicitor with min 12 months exp. Some supervision with General Practice. **Lt. Des.** ASA. **Law** 01-248 1159 **Agcy.**

NORTH WILTS. Young admitted all-round solicitor. **Comm.** **Worcester** **Comm.** **01-238 2183.**

LITTON solicitor varied v. load. **Rowland** **£12,000** A. **1281.**

SOLICITORS recently to 2 vac. filled urgently required for litigation positions throughout the country. Personal appointments 01 248 1159.

LITTON Litigation solicitor inc. **Rowland** **£12,000** A. **1281.**

Consolidated **01-238 2183.**

BBC advertising likely to follow major TV review

By David Hewson

The television industry expects the Government to present the BBC licence settlement negotiations to pave the way for a sweeping revision of British television and a new Broadcasting Bill within two years.

The changes will include a new inquiry into the BBC's structure which will result in its being partly funded by advertising. In the meantime the BBC will be given a licence fee settlement several pounds short of its requested rise from £46 a year to £65.

Independent Television is likely to be punished financially, after two years of record profits, by having the Exchequer levy switched from profits to turnover, a move which will require primary legislation.

Both the BBC and the ITV companies are waiting for the announcement of the inquiry into the Corporation's funding, probably in March, before starting publicity campaigns against the changes: a decision one television executive described yesterday as "keeping our powder dry".

The break-up of the BBC's radio and television arms, and the possible sell-off of the more commercial parts of its empire, would be considered by the new inquiry. Television observers rule out the possibility of a protracted and lengthy report, such as that headed by Lord Annan, and believe the Government will choose instead a short investigation which could lead swiftly to legislation. The Cabinet is keenly aware of the

need to settle the BBC's future before the next election. The Home Office denied yesterday that it has told the BBC that its new licence fee will be no more than £58. A spokesman said that no hard discussions about the fee were likely until after the department had received the independent report on the BBC's efficiency commissioned from the accountants Peat Marwick.

A first draft of the report arrived at Broadcasting House two weeks ago, and BBC officials are still discussing it with the authors. The revised report will not go before the BBC's board of governors before the end of the month, and will then be handed to the Home Office.

The Home Office is in no hurry to announce a new licence fee, and could even take until April, after the expiry of the present fee, to reveal the new figure and the BBC inquiry.

Both BBC and ITV figures believe the Government can proceed with no sweeping change in the BBC without some form of inquiry, although no legislation would be required to enable it to carry advertising.

A far-ranging revision of BBC structure could place the Corporation in conflict with the Government's governors. Government sources acknowledge that, under its Charter, the BBC has no power to force the BBC to take advertising, or to direct it to follow a particular managerial course.

The Corporation's licence fee claim has met mixed reaction on both sides of the Commons, much to the surprise of some BBC officials.

The House is due to debate today a move proposed by Mr Joe Ashton, the Labour MP for Bassetlaw, to introduce advertising in order to minimize the cost of the licence for the needy.

Leading article, page 13

Mr Ashton: BBC advertising will help the needy

Higher base rates may halt tax cuts

Continued from page 1

sterling index was down a net 0.5 at 70.8, again a record low. After yesterday's moves, the verdict of the foreign exchanges was "wait and see", with dealers stressing that sterling's fall in the afternoon was due to the strong dollar and oil price worries, neither of which the Government can control.

The London stock market suffered its worst day ever in terms of the reduction in share values. The FT-SE industrial index fell 19 points to 949.3, compared with an all-time peak of 983.1 struck only last week. The FT-SE index, which covers 100 leading shares, fell 28.1 to 1,220.5.

These figures would have been worse, but for the fact that shares in Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation, the shipping company, jumped from 32p to 38p on the news of the terms under which it is to take over Sterling Guarantee Trust. This calculation to have softened the fall in the 30-share index by 4.8 points.

The sectors hardest hit by the sudden rise in interest rates were stores, tobacco, breweries and building. Dearer money will leave less cash in people's pockets to spend on consumer luxuries, and it is expected that many people will put off decisions on buying a new house.

The most worrying omen in yesterday's equity trading was the volume of selling. There was a total of 32.775 bargains recorded, which ranks as a busy day. It suggests that some investors were taking the opportunity to get out altogether, raising the fear that this trend could turn into a torrent. Government stock fell by up to £2.

In the Commons, Mr Lawson, answering a private notice question in the Commons, told Mr Roy Hattersley, the Opposition shadow chancellor, that the move demonstrated the Government's resolve to take any steps necessary to ensure continued success against inflation. The objective was to bring down the inflation rate still further.

Mr Hattersley said the Government's policy was a shambles, and the policy of leaving interest rates to market forces had been abandoned.

Mr Hattersley said the Government's policy was a shambles, and the policy of leaving interest rates to market forces had been abandoned.

Mr Hattersley said the Government's policy was a shambles, and the policy of leaving interest rates to market forces had been abandoned.

Mr Hattersley said the Government's policy was a shambles, and the policy of leaving interest rates to market forces had been abandoned.

Mr Hattersley said the Government's policy was a shambles, and the policy of leaving interest rates to market forces had been abandoned.

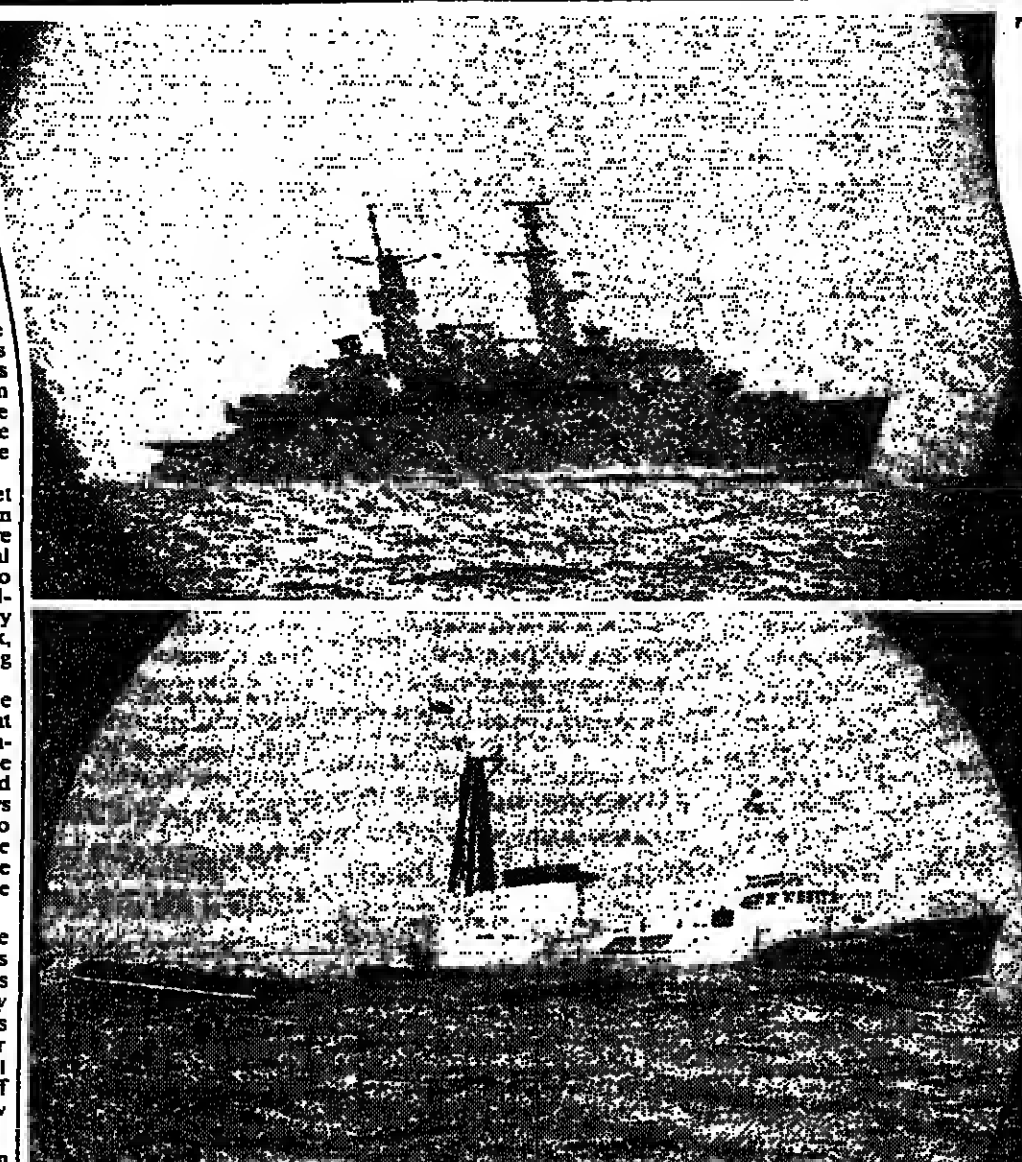
Mr Hattersley said the Government's policy was a shambles, and the policy of leaving interest rates to market forces had been abandoned.

Mr Hattersley said the Government's policy was a shambles, and the policy of leaving interest rates to market forces had been abandoned.

Mr Hattersley said the Government's policy was a shambles, and the policy of leaving interest rates to market forces had been abandoned.

Mr Hattersley said the Government's policy was a shambles, and the policy of leaving interest rates to market forces had been abandoned.

Mr Hattersley said the Government's policy was a shambles, and the policy of leaving interest rates to market forces had been abandoned.



Winning shots: HMS Brilliant photographed from HMS Ocelot. Judged the best single shot and HMS Splendid's fish's eye view of the tug Typhoon, which won second prize.

Through the periscope, a Splendid view

Continued from page 1

The Royal Navy's nuclear-powered fleet submarine HMS Splendid has won the annual periscope photography trophy competition for the Barr and Stroud Trophy, donated in 1977 by the manufacturer of all the Navy's periscopes.

Splendid, which is commanded by Commander Tony Smith, is serving with the Second Submarine Squadron, based at Devonport. The submarine came second in last year's competition.

The best single periscope photograph was a shot of the Type 22 frigate Brilliant, taken by the patrol submarine Ocelot (Lieutenant-Commander Humfrey Gordon).

Splendid won two of the five classes, for general photography and the "stereo pair" category. This technique involves taking photographs from two different viewpoints, so that when viewed with stereoscopic glasses a three-dimensional effect is achieved.

The Faslane-based fleet submarine Valiant was second and Opportune from Gosport was third.

A total of 283 photographs was entered in the competition by 26 submarines, including the Canadian patrol submarine Onondaga, which worked with the flotilla during the year.

Photography through the periscope of a submerged submarine is carried out with a conventional 35mm camera clamped to the periscope faceplate.

1,330 pitmen go back to work, says NCB

Continued from page 1

They will meet again today to decide on action and to consider whether to back Nottinghamshire further by changing their rules to make the area independent.

In taking legal advice, the board has in mind the fact that the Attila Government legislation that nationalized the mines placed a statutory obligation on the board to consult with the industry's union; but it is not clear from the legislation whether the board has a duty to recognize only one union.

The board desperately wants to avoid a destructive inter-union war in its second-largest coalfield and may seek a High Court ruling on the issue.

Lay area leaders of the mineworkers in Nottinghamshire reaffirmed their dissident line yesterday and suspended their secretary, Mr Henry Richardson, from all full-time office with the union.

Mr Roy Lynk, the area financial secretary who has been appointed acting general secretary in his place, said that Mr Richardson had left the coalfield executive with no alternative but to suspend him after his refusal to give an undertaking not to handle official correspondence.

Other pit news, page 2

Charities named by BMA unload tobacco shares

By Thomson Prentice Science Correspondent

Embarrassed health organizations and public bodies were yesterday reconsidering their investments in the tobacco industry, disclosed by the British Medical Association.

Two health charities, the British Heart Foundation and Mind, the National Association for Mental Health, moved quickly to sell their tobacco shares after being named in a BMA report.

But the Royal College of Surgeons of England defended its investment of 114,000 shares in companies directly and indirectly related to cigarette manufacturing.

The British Heart Foundation rushed to sell its 36,000 shares in the Grand Metropolitan hotels group, whose tobacco interests include the American cigarette company Liggett & Myers.

"We were completely unaware that Grand Met had any connection with the tobacco industry," the Foundation's director general, Brigadier said.

We are of course deeply shocked at this revelation. The shares represented just over 1 per cent of the total investments of the foundation, which campaigns against cigarette smoking.

The Greater Glasgow Health Board, which is taking part in a campaign to make Glasgow a "smoke free" city by the year 2000, may reconsider its £130,000 holding in Grand Metropolitan.

"We have a policy to avoid investing in tobacco companies as such," a spokesman said, "and we regard our Grand Met holding as an investment in

hotels. But now that it has been brought to our notice, the board may think again."

The Imperial Cancer Research Fund, which has £500,000 invested in Grand Metropolitan, is to decide what to do on January 29.

However, the Royal College of Surgeons of England defended its holding of 84,000 Grand Met shares and 30,000 shares in BAT, which markets 300 brands of cigarettes worldwide.

A spokesman said that it was virtually impossible not to have investments to which someone would object to.

Until last year the College's policy was that it would not

invest in tobacco, but this was changed because tobacco companies had diversified into many other areas.

The BMA said: "We will be extremely surprised if the college sticks to this decision once it thinks it through."

Shares in tobacco companies fell sharply yesterday in line with the collapse on the stock market, but there was no indication of a selling backlash caused by the weekend disclosures.

However, there was some concern in the City that the BMA report could encourage the Chancellor of the Exchequer to impose further heavy tax in the Budget.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

New exhibitions

Work by Anthony Green, Polytechnic Gallery, Library Building, Sandyford Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, Mon to Thur 10 to 6, Fri and Sat 10 to 4, ends Feb 15.

The Bronte portraits, Graves Art Gallery, Surrey Street, Sheffield, Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5, ends Feb 23.

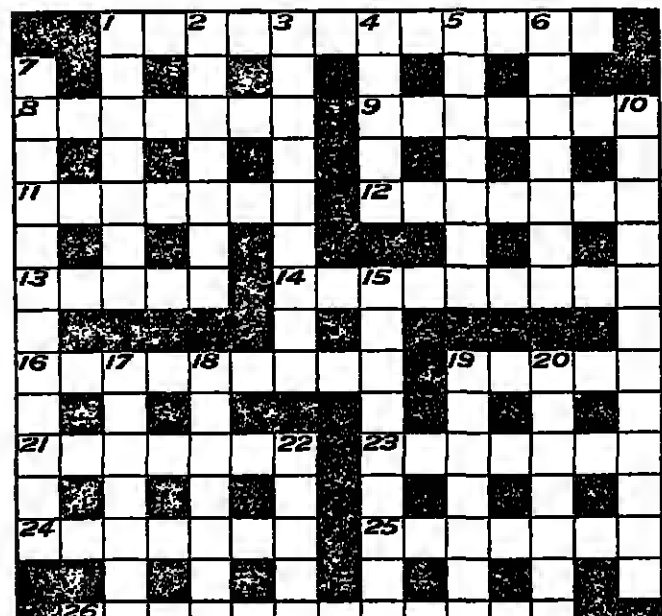
Exhibitions in progress

William Gladstone's Inverness, Museum and Art Gallery, Castle Wynd, Inverness, Mon to Sat 9 to 5, Closed Sun, ends Feb 17.

Memory of Memories, by Josef Herman, Third Eye Centre, 350 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow, Tues to Sat 10 to 5.30, Sun 2 to 5.30, Closed Mon, ends Feb 21.

Clay Images - ceramics exhibition: One of a Kind - exhibition

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,635



ACROSS

- Class for which average pug or boxer may qualify (11).
- The sight of a bathing beauty turned him into a beast (7).
- Princess may travel by new liner (7).
- King, rejecting Hadrian's work, claims to have the answers (14-31).
- Double negative by this girl on the stage (7).
- Manicuring, extremely sweet in himself, is liable to bluster (13).
- Check speed of climb as measure of duration (14-31).
- The last shall be first in island following leading saint in utmost confidence (13,6).
- Throw-back to lilies born in Switzerland (15).
- Pawnee accepts article however dirty (7).
- Praise for a nose (7).
- Science conditions set for Proust's characters (7).
- A match for the devil (7).
- Topping fee at the end of a contract job (19,3).

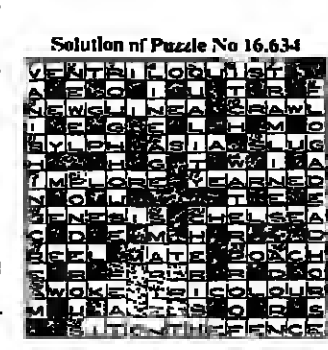
DOWN

- Doctor is not involved in proposals (7).
- Write up note in journal of food allowance (7).
- Novelist composed backchat - in old Mauretania (9).

4 Rate set on a northern town (5).

- Opportunity to score over opponents (7).
- Tisane WPC might take to her bed, maybe (14,3).
- They offer inclusive terms for taking parcel to French town (17,5).
- Do they reveal the false position, the golfer is in? (13,4).
- It has to do with changing one's make-up, naturally (9).
- This is the form - get it? (7).
- Sty is a blot on the landscape (7).
- Improper EEC line gets the bird (7).
- It may be stewed, fried or soured (7).
- Following Virginia she gets a butterfly (15).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,634



CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 10

TV top ten

National top ten BBC1, ITV, BBC2, CH4, for week ending December 30, 1984.

- Porridge, 19.35m
- Ant and Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway, 18.00m
- Mary Poppins, 17.35m
- The Kenny Everett Christmas Show, 15.6m
- Christmas Story, 15.35m
- Last of the Summer Wine, 15.25m
- East of Eden, 15.20m
- Escape to Victory, 15.20m
- Red Dwarf, 14.75m
- North Sea Hijack, 14.75m

Comet calls

The Halley's Comet Hotline is available on the following numbers for information 24 hours a day for the next 17 months:

- London: 01-790 3400
- Glasgow: 041-533 4000
- Cardiff: 0222 398555
- Belfast: 0232 330505
- Liverpool: 051-2368474
- Bristol: 0272 794944
- Birmingham: 021-355 6144
- Leeds: 0532 8113
- Manchester: 061-236 8061

The pound

	Bank	Bank
Australia \$	1.425	1.355
Canada \$	1.25	1.25
Denmark Kr	74.48	70.40
Deutsche Mark	123.2	124.8
France F	166.35	166.35
Italy Lira	2036	2036
Japan Yen	237.00	237.00
Netherlands Gld	4.19	3.99
New Zealand \$	1.10	1.10
Portugal Esc	200.00	191.00
South Africa Rand	203.00	193.00
Spain Ptas	166.00	166.00
Sweden Kron	1.175	1.175
Switzerland Fr	2.00	2.00
Yugoslavia Dnr	280.00	260.00

Wildfowling ban

All wildfowling in England and Wales is to be banned from tomorrow because of the severe winter conditions. The ban will last two weeks and has been imposed by the Department of the Environment.

Portfolio

Portfolio - how to play

Monday-Saturday record your daily Portfolio total. Add these together to determine your weekly Portfolio total.

If your total matches the published weekly dividend figure you have won money or a share of the prize money prize for each week, and must claim your prize as instructed below.

How to claim: Telephone 0254-52372 between 10.00 am and 3.30 pm, on the day your record matches the Times Portfolio dividend. No claims can be accepted outside these hours.

You must have your card with you when you telephone.

If you are unable to telephone someone else can claim on your behalf but they must have your card and call the Times Portfolio claims line between the stipulated times.

No responsibility can be accepted for failure to contact the claims office for any reason within the stated hours.

The above instructions are applicable to both daily and weekly dividend claims.

Some Times Portfolio cards include minor variations in the instructions and the reverse side. These cards are not invalid.

The wording of Rules 2 and 3 has been amended from earlier versions for clarification purposes. The Game itself is not affected and will continue to be played in exactly the same way as before.

Wales and West (Wiltshire)

A419 at Swindon. Stratton St Margaret by-pass. Northbound carriageway closed. Contrail on southbound carriageway. Alternative routes signposted.

North: ICheshire: A534 Crewe Rd N of Crewe. Major resurfacing work. Yorkshire (North): A1 roadworks between Leeming Bar and Broughtham. S of Orchard Cafe to Pockhill Lane. End. Yorkshire (West): A1 major resurfacing work at Ferrybridge Interchange. Fast lane closures delays.

Scotland: M8 (Glasgow) between junction 10 (Easterhouse) and junction 11 (Queenslie) lighting maintenance. Lane closures affecting both carriageways from 9.30 to 4.30 daily. Stirling: M9 between junction 5 (M876) and junction 9 (Stirling). Gully cleaning will close one lane northbound, Monday to Friday. M74 between junction 6 (M74) and junction 1 (Lanark). Surface repairs to southbound carriageway. Lane closures.

The Daily Star, commenting on the motherhood of the future of Baby Cotton has finally been decided, and judging from the remarks of Mr Justice Lacey, she can look forward to a secure, loving and prosperous future. Having argued since her birth that the child should go to her natural father, we are delighted at the outcome.

The Daily Mirror, commenting on the motherhood of the future of Baby Cotton has finally been decided, and judging from the remarks of Mr Justice Lacey, she can look forward to a secure, loving and prosperous future. Having argued since her birth that the child should go to her natural father, we are delighted at the outcome.

The Daily Mirror, commenting on the motherhood of the future of Baby Cotton has finally been decided, and judging from the remarks of Mr Justice Lacey, she can look forward to a secure, loving and prosperous future. Having argued since her birth that the child should go to her natural father, we are delighted at the outcome.

The Daily Mirror, commenting on the motherhood of the future of Baby Cotton has finally been decided, and judging from the remarks of Mr Justice Lacey, she can look forward to a secure, loving and prosperous future. Having argued since her birth that the child should go to her natural father, we are delighted at the outcome.

The Daily Mirror, commenting on the motherhood of the future of Baby Cotton has finally been decided, and judging from the remarks of Mr Justice Lacey, she can look forward to a secure, loving and prosperous future. Having argued since her birth that the child should go to her natural father, we are delighted at the outcome.

The Daily Mirror, commenting on the motherhood of the future of Baby Cotton has finally been decided, and judging from the remarks of Mr Justice Lacey, she can look forward to a secure, loving and prosperous future. Having argued since her birth that the child should go to her natural father, we are delighted at the outcome.

The Daily Mirror, commenting on the motherhood of the future of Baby Cotton has finally been decided, and judging from the remarks of Mr Justice Lacey, she can look forward to a secure, loving and prosperous future. Having argued since her birth that the child should go to her natural father, we are delighted at the outcome.

The Daily Mirror, commenting on the motherhood of the future of Baby Cotton has finally been decided, and judging from the remarks of Mr Justice Lacey, she can look forward to a secure, loving and prosperous future. Having argued since her birth that the child should go to her natural father, we are delighted at the outcome.

The Daily Mirror, commenting on the motherhood of the future of Baby Cotton has finally been decided, and judging from the remarks of Mr Justice Lacey, she can look forward to a secure, loving and prosperous future. Having argued since her birth that the child should go to her natural father, we are delighted at the outcome.

The Daily Mirror, commenting on the motherhood of the future of Baby Cotton has finally been decided, and judging from the remarks of Mr Justice Lacey, she can look forward to a secure, loving and prosperous future. Having argued since her birth that the child should go to her natural father, we are delighted at the outcome.

The Daily Mirror, commenting on the motherhood of the future of Baby Cotton has finally been decided, and judging from the remarks of Mr Justice Lacey, she can look forward to a secure, loving and prosperous future. Having argued since her birth that the child should go to her natural father, we are delighted at the outcome.

The Daily Mirror, commenting on the motherhood of the future of Baby Cotton has finally been decided, and judging from the remarks of Mr Justice Lacey, she can look forward to a secure, loving and prosperous future. Having argued since her birth that the child should go to her natural father, we are delighted at the outcome.

The Daily Mirror, commenting on the motherhood of the future of Baby Cotton has finally been decided, and judging from the remarks of Mr Justice Lacey, she can look forward to a secure, loving and prosperous future. Having argued since her birth that the child should go to her natural father, we are delighted at the outcome.

The Daily Mirror, commenting on the motherhood of the future of Baby Cotton has finally been decided, and judging from the remarks of Mr Justice Lacey, she can look forward to a secure, loving and prosperous future. Having argued since her birth that the child should go to her natural father, we are delighted at the outcome.

The Daily Mirror, commenting on the motherhood of the future of Baby Cotton has finally been decided, and judging from the remarks of Mr Justice Lacey, she can look forward to a secure, loving and prosperous future. Having argued since her birth that the child should go to her natural father, we are delighted at the outcome.

The Daily Mirror, commenting on the motherhood of the future of Baby Cotton has finally been decided, and judging from the remarks of Mr Justice Lacey, she can look forward to a secure, loving and prosperous future. Having argued since her birth that the child should go to her natural father, we are delighted at the outcome.

The Daily Mirror, commenting on the motherhood of the future of Baby Cotton has finally been decided, and judging from the remarks of Mr Justice Lacey, she can look forward to a secure, loving and prosperous future. Having argued since her birth that the child should go to her natural father, we are delighted at the outcome.

The Daily Mirror, commenting on the motherhood of the future of Baby Cotton has finally been decided, and judging from the remarks of Mr Justice Lacey, she can look forward to a secure, loving and prosperous future. Having argued since her birth that the child should go to her natural father, we are delighted at the outcome.

The Daily Mirror, commenting on the motherhood of the future of Baby Cotton has finally been decided, and judging from the remarks of Mr Justice Lacey, she can look forward to a secure, loving and prosperous future. Having argued since her birth that the child should go to her natural father, we are delighted at the outcome.

The Daily Mirror, commenting on the motherhood of the future of Baby Cotton has finally been decided, and judging from the remarks of Mr Justice Lacey, she can look forward to a secure, loving and prosperous future. Having argued since her birth that the child should go to her natural father, we are delighted at the outcome.

The Daily Mirror, commenting on the motherhood of the future of Baby Cotton has finally been decided, and judging from the remarks of Mr Justice Lacey, she can look forward to a secure, loving and prosperous future. Having argued since her birth that the child should go to her natural father, we are delighted at the outcome.

The Daily Mirror, commenting on the motherhood of the future of Baby Cotton has finally been decided, and judging from the remarks of Mr Justice Lacey, she can look forward to a secure, loving and prosperous future. Having argued since her birth that the child should go to her natural father, we are delighted at the outcome.

The Daily Mirror, commenting on the motherhood of the future of Baby Cotton has finally been decided, and judging from the remarks of Mr Justice Lacey, she can look forward to a secure, loving and prosperous future. Having argued since her birth that the child should go to her natural father, we are delighted at the outcome.

The Daily Mirror, commenting on the motherhood of the future of Baby Cotton has finally been decided, and judging from the remarks of Mr Justice Lacey, she can look forward to a secure, loving and prosperous future. Having argued since her birth that the child should go to her natural father, we are delighted at the outcome.

The Daily Mirror, commenting on the motherhood of the future of Baby Cotton has finally been decided, and judging from the remarks of Mr Justice Lacey, she can look forward to a secure, loving and prosperous future. Having argued since her birth that the child should go to her natural father, we are delighted at the outcome.

The Daily Mirror, commenting on the motherhood of the future of Baby Cotton has finally been decided, and judging from the remarks of Mr Justice Lacey, she can look forward to a secure, loving and prosperous future. Having argued since her birth that the child should go to her natural father, we are delighted at the outcome.

The Daily Mirror, commenting on the motherhood of the future of Baby Cotton has finally been decided, and judging from the remarks of Mr Justice Lacey, she can look forward to a secure, loving and prosperous future. Having argued since her birth that the child should go to her natural father, we are delighted at the outcome.

The Daily Mirror, commenting on the motherhood of the future of Baby Cotton has finally been decided, and judging from the remarks of Mr Justice Lacey, she can look forward to a secure, loving and prosperous future. Having argued since her birth that the child should go to her natural father, we are delighted at the outcome.

Weather forecast

A ridge of high pressure extending from Scandinavia across Scotland will persist. Low pressure over Mediterranean is expected to move north.

6 am to midnight

London, SE, Central, S England, E Midlands, E Angles: Showers at first, becoming more continuous and moderate in places. Wind NE strong to gale. Very cold, max 6°C (22°F).

W, Central, N England, W Midlands, S Wales: Isolated snow showers. Wind NE strong to gale. Very cold, max 6°C (22°F).

Wales and West (Wiltshire): A419 at Swindon. Stratton St Margaret by-pass. Northbound carriageway closed. Contrail on southbound carriageway. Alternative routes signposted.

North: ICheshire: A534 Crewe Rd N of Crewe. Major resurfacing work. Yorkshire (North): A1 roadworks between Leeming Bar and Broughtham. S of Orchard Cafe to Pockhill Lane. End. Yorkshire (West): A1 major resurfacing work at Ferrybridge Interchange. Fast lane closures delays.

Scotland: M8 (Glasgow) between junction 10 (Easterhouse) and junction 11 (Queenslie) lighting maintenance. Lane closures affecting both carriageways from 9.30 to 4.30 daily. Stirling: M9 between junction 5 (M876) and junction 9 (Stirling). Gully cleaning will close one lane northbound, Monday to Friday. M74 between junction 6 (M74) and junction 1 (Lanark). Surface repairs to southbound carriageway. Lane closures.

The Daily Star, commenting on the motherhood of the future of Baby Cotton has finally been decided, and judging from the remarks of Mr Justice Lacey, she can look forward to a secure, loving and prosperous future. Having argued since her birth that the child should go to her natural father, we are delighted at the outcome.